3101-79
F958-B.

66

No 1601.

Duplicate of Dc. to 696 of Oct. 24 sent Jany 22, 18 CR Cor

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Dec. 4th 1882.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN
6
1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State

Subject

Receipt of Instructions numbered 694, 695, 697, 698 and 699; also of circular Instruction in relation to a proposed convention for fixing a Zero of longitude, and standard of time reckoning throughout the world &c.

No 1601.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Dec. 4th 1882.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Instructions numbered respectively 694, 695, 697, 698 and 699,- also Department Circular Instruction - not numbered in relation to the invitation of the President to all nations holding diplomatic relations with the United States, to appoint delegates to meet with delegates of the United States at Washington, at such time

as

as the President may designate, for the purpose of fixing upon a meridian proper to be employed as a common Zero of longitude and standard of time reckoning throughout the Globe.

This Circular having no number, is supposed to represent No. 696, as no dispatch has been received bearing that number. I am also in receipt of "copies of an "Act to execute certain "treaty stipulations relating to Chinese."

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your obedient Servant

Wm. A. Richardson

696 Oct. 24, 1882

File

No 1602 United States Legation

Tokei Japan 4th Dec 1882

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN
6
1883
RECEIVED

Mr. Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject

Receipt of Instructions referred to in my No. 1593 as missing to wit number 694 and 695.

No. 1602. United States Legation

Tokei, Japan 4th Dec. 1882

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my No. 1593 in which I acknowledged receipt of Instructions and called attention to the absence of Instructions numbered No 694 & 695, I beg leave to acquaint you, that per the mail received on the 2nd inst. the missing Instructions numbered 694 & 695 came to hand.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your obedient servant,

Wm. A. Burlingame

No 1603.

copy to Consulate with despatch No 1603 from Japan dated Dec 6/82 Castle Jany 9/83

copy to Library Jany 9 83 Castle

United States Legation
Tokei Dec. 6th 1882.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 6 1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject
Report of the Post Master General of Japan for the year 1881.

Enclosures.
Five printed copies of Report of Post Master General of Japan for 1881.

No 1603.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Dec. 6th 1882.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State.
Washington D. C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to transmit for your information four several copies of the tenth report of the Post Master General of Japan for the fiscal year ended June 30th 1881, - 14th year of Meiji 12th Month,

By this report it appears that the postal revenues for the fiscal year (exclusive of fines levied by the Department of Justice) amounted to Yen 1.424,350.46/100

and -

and the expenditures to Yen 1,347,722.
96/100, showing that the revenue ex-
-ceeded the expenditure Yen 76,627.51/100.

The aggregate number of letters,
newspapers, books, samples &c. trans-
-mitted in the mail during the year
was 83,294,010. The aggregate
length of mail routes at the close
of the year was 19,390, (ie) equal to
48,475 English miles.

The total number of Post offices
in operation is 4,819 - of receiving
agencies 217 of stamp agencies 5,284 and of ~~street~~ letter boxes 4,662.

Of foreign mails the number
of ordinary letters and postal cards
dispatched therein to foreign
countries during said fiscal year
was 332,664. and of newspapers, &

books

books, and samples of merchandise. The report shows that the increase was 21,199. of registered articles 11,836,

It appears by this report that of the whole number of foreign letters and postal cards despatched to foreign countries during the said year as above stated, there were to the United States and countries via the United States 160,156 and received therefrom by way thereof 320.000 in round numbers.

The Post office savings banks show an excess of deposits at the close of the year of yen 741,253 87/100.

Table K. page 27. shows that the total number of Post Office Savings Banks at the end of the year was 935. and that the total interest

paid

paid to depositors therein during the year was yen 39.141,37, and the total revenues to the Department therefrom for the year - yen 16,982 84/100.

Of this report it may be said it makes a good showing for the Postal system of Japan.

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

M. U. Bingham

1604. File

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Dec 7th/1882.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.
Receipt of blank forms.

No. 1604. United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. Dec 7th 1882.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Sir!

Adverting to your Instruction No. 697 in relation to the transmission to this Legation of a supply of blank forms for quarterly accounts and contingent expenses, also blank passports, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the blank forms and blank passports for which I beg leave to tender my thanks.

I have the honor to be

Sir.

Your obedient Servant

Wm. A Burlingame

No 1605. Acknowledged No. to file

W Williams

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Dec 7th 1882.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN
6
1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject:

Mr Bingham's instruction of date 2nd October 1882 to Consul Stahel in relation to British order in Council for 1881. &c.

Enclosure.

Mr Bingham to Mr Consul Stahel

Dated Oct 2nd 1882 mentioned in enclosure.

No. 1605. United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. 7th Dec. 1882.

Hon. Frederick Frelinghuysen

Sir!

In compliance with Instruction No. 698 of date the 1st of November last, in relation to proceedings under Section 47 of Her Britannic Majestys order in Council for 1881, I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of my Instruction No 1300 dated the 2nd of October last to Mr Consul Stahel on that subject.

I have the honor to be

Sir.

Your obedient Servant

Jno A. Bingham

Enclosure with No 1605.

No. 1300.

United States Legation
Tokio Japan Oct. 2nd 1882.

Julius Stahel Esqre
United States Consul
Kobe.

Sir!

I am in receipt of your No. 1727, of date the 9th ultimo together with copies enclosed therewith of the correspondence between Mr Woolley and yourself in relation to the 47th Section of Her Britannic Majesty's order in Council for China and Japan issued in the year 1881.

Having received on the 20th ultimo an instruction of the Department No. 679, and dated the 11th of August last

last, wherein the Honorable the Acting Secretary of State says that I should "consider the views imparted to General Van Buren by Mr Bancroft Davis in the instruction to him of the 9th May last, (a copy of which is herewith) to be the ruling of the Department, I deem it my duty to advise you that you should hereafter comply with the requirement of Section 47 of said order in Council for 1881. and give your written consent to the submission of the Plaintiff as required therein, with the express statement in such consent written by you as suggested by Mr Woolley in his "letter to you of the 15th ultimo, - "that your consent is given upon "the understanding assented to by

Mr.

"Mr Woolley, that his consent will be
"given in like manner to the sub-
"-mission of a British subject to United
"States jurisdiction in all civil actions
"instituted in your Consular Court
by a British subject."

You will please notify Mr
Woolley of your readiness to take
such action in the premises.

I am, Sir.

Your obedient Servant

Signed Frederick Bancroft

Enclosure with the above-

Copy

Department of State.

Washington, May 9th 1882

Thomas B. Van Buren Esqre

Consul General of the United States

Kanagawa, Japan.

Sir!

Adverting to your No. 619. of the 6th ultimo, relative to the Status of American Citizens, Suitors in British Consular Courts in Japan, I have to advise you that the British order in Council transcribed by you in that despatch is conceived by the Department to be fair and just.

I am, Sir.

Your obedient Servant

J. C. Bancroft Davis.

Assistant Secretary.

No 1606.

Copy to Treasury with Supt. report. Jany 10 1883. Ch Clerk

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN
6
1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei, Japan. Dec. 7th 1882.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Report of the import and export of precious metals to and from Japan from 1868 to 1881 inclusive.

Enclosures

2 Copies (in duplicate Envelope) of "Comparative tables of imports & exports of precious Metals to & from Japan from 1868 to 1881.

No 1606. United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. Dec. 7th 1882.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Sir!

In further response to your Circular Instruction marked "Separate" of date the 12th of April last in relation to the request of the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury for information concerning the import and export of the precious metals to and from Japan, I have the honor to enclose herewith official duplicate copies of comparative tables showing among other things, the import and export thereof from the year 1868 to 1881 inclusive.

The tables on pages 37 to 40 inclusive, exhibit the quantity and value in gold yen, of specie and bullion, exported from this Empire within the period named, to wit from 1868, to 1881. and the tables on pages 41 = 42 show the quantity and value thereof in gold Yen, imported to Japan within the same period.

I have the honor to be

Sir.

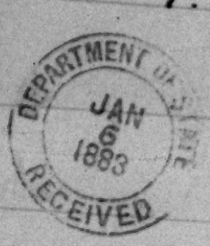
Your obedient Servant

Mo A. Bingham

No 1607.

Ack by this office

W Williams



United States Legation
Tokei. Japan. Dec. 8th 1882.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

The transmission by Mr. Bingham of the Presidents' letter, to His Majesty the Emperor of Japan: in reply to His Majesty's letter announcing the recall of Mr Yoshida.

No 1607.

United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. Dec. 8th 1882.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Sir!

I have the honor to acquaint you that in accordance with your Instruction No 699 of date the 2nd ultimo, I have by favor of His Excellency Mr Inouye the minister for Foreign Affairs conveyed to His Imperial Japanese Majesty the sealed letter addressed to him by the President in reply to the letter of His Majesty of date the 19th of August last concerning the recall of Mr Yoshida, and that I have also fowarded to Mr Inouye the office copy of the President's

letter

letter.

I have the honor to be

Sir.

Your obedient Servant

Jno A Shipherd

No 1608.

Ack'd by Mr Hitt

W Williams

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 6 1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei, Japan. Dec. 8th 1882.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr Bingham transmits to the Minister for the Foreign Affairs a copy of the circular Instruction of date 23d October last, in relation to an international conference at Washington for the purpose of fixing upon a meridian of a common Zero &c.

Enclosure.

1 Mr Bingham to Mr Frelinghuysen dated Dec 7th 1882.

No 1608.

United States Legation
Tokei, Japan. Dec. 8th 1882.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Sir!

I beg leave to inform you that I have in pursuance of your circular instruction of date the 23d of October last, enclosed a copy thereof to His Excellency Mr Inouye His Imperial Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs together with an official note (a copy of which is herewith) in which you will please observe that I have called his special attention to the contents of the Circular, and have requested to be informed at

an

an early day whether it will be the pleasure of His Imperial Majesty's Government to appoint delegates to meet the delegates of the United States and of other powers in an international conference at Washington City on a day to be designated by the President for the purpose of fixing upon a meridian proper to be employed as a common Zero of longitude and standard of time-reckoning throughout the globe.

I will forward the reply of this Government as soon as received.

I have the honor to be

Sir.

Your obedient Servant.

Jno A. Bingham

Enclosure with No. 1608.

Copy No. 1927.

United States Legation

His Excellency, Turkish Empire 7 Dec 1882

Mahmoud Kamil

His Imperial Highness

Minister for

Foreign Affairs,

Sir: Herewith I have the honor to enclose for your consideration a copy of a Circular Instruction dated the 23rd of October last, addressed to me by the Honorable the Secretary of State by direction of the President of the United States, in pursuance of an Act of the Congress thereof, which provides that the

President

Resident be authorized and
requested to extend to the
Governments of such Nations
as diplomatic relations
with the United States, an
invitation to appoint Delegates,
to meet Delegates from the
United States in the City of
Washington at such time as
the President may designate
for the purpose of fixing upon
a Meridian proper to be employed
as a common zero of longitude
and Standard of time - throughout
throughout the globe, and that
the President appoint Delegates
not exceeding three (3) in
number, to represent the
United States in such International
Conference

conference.

You will please observe that I am especially instructed to bring the matter to the attention of His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government through Your Excellency with a view to ascertain whether in the opinion of His Majesty's Government the adoption of the Commercial Treaty - and of time as suggested is desirable and likely to promote the interest of our two peoples leading into intimate relations, and whether it will be the pleasure of His Majesty's Government to accept an invitation from that of the United States of America

To

to participate in an international
conference for the purpose named
at a date to be designated in the
near future by the President of the
United States.

Hoping that Your Excellency
will favor me with an early
reply upon the subject I avail
myself of this occasion to renew
to Your Excellency the
assurance of my highest
consideration

Signed — Wm A Knight

File

No 1609.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Dec. 21st 1882.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.
Receipt of Instructions. 700, 701, and
702.

No 1609.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Dec. 21st 1882.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Instructions numbered 700, 701, and 702 respectively.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Jno A Bingham

File

No 1610.

DEPARTMENT
JAN
15
1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Dec. 21st 1882.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.
Acknowledging receipt of Stationery
for Legation.

No 1610.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Dec. 21st 1882

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State.
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of two (2) boxes of stationery for the use of this Legation, - for which please accept my thanks.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your obedient servant.
Jno A Bingham

Ack by dec 1 file

No 1611. Williams

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Dec. 21st 1882.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 15 1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.

Letter on the Shimonoseki fund published in New York Herald, reporting that Mr Stevens was appointed to lobby for the Shimonoseki bill — Letter dated Yokohama Oct. 17th — published in New York Nov. 3rd — too soon to be sent by mail — and not published as a telegram

Enclosures

Article and letter published in "Japan Gazette"

No 1611.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Dec. 21st 1882.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

In the Japan Gazette of the 19th inst. appeared an article calling attention to a letter which was published as stated in the "New York Herald" of the 3rd ultimo, and which letter was dated it appears at Yokohama Oct. 17th 1882, a copy of which article and letter as published in the Gazette I beg leave to enclose for your information.

It is not to be supposed that the

the letter reached the New York Herald from Yokohama by mail on the 3rd of November and within sixteen days of its date. If the letter had been sent to the Herald by telegraph from San Francisco as suggested by the Gazette, that fact doubtless would have been noted in the publication of it. Considering that the manifest purpose of this letter is to prejudice this Government especially in the matter of the Shimonoseki indemnity by charging that "the recent appointment of "a new American attaché to the "Japanese Legation at Washington "was due chiefly to the belief impressed "upon the Japanese Government that "this gentleman possessed the peculiar

abilities

abilities requisite for immediately
securing the long withheld fund."
leads me to think that it was written
by the same person who contributed
the malignant article in relation,
among other things to Mr Stevens
appointment as Japanese attaché
at Washington which appeared
in the Japan Gazette of the 23rd
of September last, and which
I had the honor to enclose with
my No 1579 of date the 16th of October
last.

As this letter of the 17th of October
does not appear by the Herald publication
to have been sent by telegraph, it
is reasonable to suppose that
its author is in the United States,
and adopted Yokohama as the
place

place from which it was sent as a mere blind to conceal the authorship.

It is but just to say that as Mr Stevens is the American attaché refered to in this Yokohama letter as having been appointed in order to obtain his services in lobbying for the Shimonoseki fund. he knew when he left this Legation, and before he left it, that this Government had complained to me of the false accusation made in Washington that it had sought the lobby to influence the passage of this bill, and had also signified its purpose to make a representation against the injustice done by any such representation.

To

To say this much seems to me to be due at least to this Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient Servant,

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure (1) with No 11.

Extract from Japan Gazette

It is more than probable the *New York Herald* takes every precaution to procure trustworthy correspondents; it is certain that whatever appears in that influential journal has a wide circulation and is largely read by some of the best people in the United States. The letter which we extract below from the *Herald* of November 3rd. gives a coloured probably exaggerated account of the state of affairs in Japan at the present moment; and a deplorable account it is. This country, which might unquestionably be prosperous and wealthy with a growing commerce and rapidly increasing production, is in a state of commercial stagnation, the efforts of the government, well meant though they may be, to promote trade exercising the opposite effect of strangling it in its inception.

The writer of the letter displays no inconsiderable knowledge of affairs in Japan. If he were called upon to support his assertions he would have little difficulty in doing so; for instance, if he were asked to justify the passage that "The ministry has become little more than a body of politicians, several factions struggling for supremacy to the neglect of public business" he could refer briefly to the two latest trading ventures of the government, namely, the formation of the Nippon Ginko and the projected Kiodo Unyu Kwaisha; and contrast the government action in these matters with their previous promise to withdraw wholly from trading ventures. Similarly with the other statements, scarcely one of which is not capable of convincing demonstration.

All this is much to be regretted, but the publication of the letter will serve the good purpose of showing those responsible for the condition of affairs described that a substantially accurate version is presented to all who take any interest whatever in Japan and its progress. Indiscriminate eulogy has had the effect wise men foresaw it would have; and the curiosity of the foreign public is excited to know what the much lauded Japan has really done for her people and the rest of the world; and on what foundation she rests her claim to be admitted into the comity of nations whose status rests on their works for the good of their own and all other people, as exemplified by their trade and its growth.

The dates of the letter and the paper in which it appeared seem to indicate that the letter must have been transmitted from San Francisco to New York by telegraph. The *Oceanic* left here October 17th, and the mails, even in the event of an exceptionally fast passage across the Pacific, could not reach New York in eighteen days.

JAPANESE LOBBYING.

Yokohama, Oct. 17, 1882.

The reports of Japanese lobbying with respect to the Simonoseki indemnity fund are received with great indignation by the higher government officials, and indeed few foreigners acquainted with the character of the late Envoy to Washington believe such a practice possible under his authority. Statements are circulated in Tokio among native officials and foreigners that the recent appointment of a new American attaché to the Japanese legation at Washington was due chiefly to the belief impressed upon the Japanese government that this gentleman possessed the peculiar abilities requisite for immediately securing the long withheld fund The attitude of the present government on this question is not so dignified as that of the Ministry of a few years ago. The Ministry has become little more than a body of politicians, the several factions struggling for supremacy to the neglect of public business. The finances are staggering since the ejection from the Cabinet of the best Treasury manager the country has produced. The currency is at a discount of sixty per cent. There is no systematic effort to restore it. Several national banks have failed under disgraceful circumstances. The whole banking system is under popular suspicion Many of the great departments are governed by notoriously unsuitable heads, who hold their places through political intrigues The Post Office Department, for years one of the finest [illegible] in the country, was a year ago put under one of the scrambling politicians. Already there are complaints from all quarters of the expenditures exceeding the income. It is reported that the Navy Department has petitioned for $10,000,000 with which to purchase new ships of war. The money cannot be raised without an enormous sacrifice, but something will probably be done. With an empty treasury, disordered finances, a discontented community and an inefficient government, Japan continues in a course of extravagance calculated to justify the most anxious forebodings.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB
1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Dec 31st 1882.

Hon. Frederick T. Fleelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith statement of my account for salary as Interpreter of this Legation for the fourth quarter of the current year showing that I drew on Morton Rose & Company December 31st 1882 for £128-8-7 and that I received therefor the equivalent of $625.00 United States gold and no more as per Bankers certificate herewith. I

I have the honor to be,

Sirs:

Your obedient Servant.

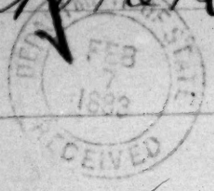
Samuel R. Frazier,

Frazier - Feby 12 1883 Circular.

Desires Mr Bingham to enclose the resignation of Mr Frazier's resignation Feby 12. 83 Circular.

W Williams

1612.



United States Legation
Tokei Japan Jan. 10th 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.
Mr Frazier's resignation as
Interpreter to Legation.

Enclosure (2)
1) Mr Frazier's letter to the Honorable the Secretary of State dated
1) Mr Frazier's letter to Mr Bingham.

No 16 12.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Jan 10th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to enclose a letter of current date addressed to you by Mr Samuel R. Frazier, Interpreter to this Legation wherein he resigns the office of Interpreter to take effect on the 31st of March next. and a which letter I transmit in accordance with the request made by Mr Frazier to me, of this date. a copy of which is herewith.

I

I trust you will accept Mr Frazier's resignation as I am persuaded that the condition of his health makes it desirable that he be relieved.

I have the honor to be,
Sir.
Your obedient servant.
Wm A. Bringhurst

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Jan. 10th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to resign my position as Interpreter to this Legation to take effect upon the 31st day of March next, as the failing condition of my health makes it needful that I should return to the United States. Hoping that you will be pleased to accept my resignation to take effect on the day above named

I have the honor to be,

Sir:

Your obedient Servant,

Samuel R. Frazier

Enclosure with No 612

Copy

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Jan. 10th 1883.

Hon. John A. Bingham.

Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary of the
United States of America.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a letter addressed by me to the Honorable the Secretary of State, resigning my position as Interpreter to this Legation, and respectfully request that you will kindly forward the same.

I am, Sir!

with the very kindest regards

Your obedient Servant

Samuel R. Frazier,

W Williams

No 1613

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Jan. 10th 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.
Monthly returns of Customs.
of Japan October 1882.

Enclosure
Monthly Returns of His Imperial
Majesty's Customs of Japan
for the Month of October 1882.
in duplicate.

No 1613

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 10th Jan. 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir!

Herewith I beg leave to enclose for your information duplicates of the monthly return of His Imperial Majesty's Customs of Japan for the month of October 1882.

This return shows that the domestic productions exported during said month amounted in value to gold Yen 3,070.548.44 o/oo and the

value

value of foreign productions
imported to gold yen 2.212,729.03 00/00
showing that the value of the
months export exceeded that of
the import gold yen 857.819.40 00/00

It also appears that the
total value of specie and bullion
exported during that month
was gold yen 473.677.50 00/00
and that the value of the
import thereof was gold yen
207.228.40 00/00 thus showing
that the export during the
months of specie and bullion
exceeded in value the import
thereof gold yen 266,449.10 00/00

I have the honor to be

Sir,

your obedient Servant

Wm. A. Bingham

No 1614

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Jan 11th 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 7 1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.

The proposed amendments as proposed in Section 8th of the draft of an act published with Senate documents 89-47th Congress 1st Session to existing laws in relation to the Extra territorial jurisdiction of the United States in Japan &c

No. 1614. United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. Jan 11th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir!

Referring to Department Circular Instruction of date the 8th of June last and to its enclosure Senate Miscellaneous document No. 89 containing papers relating to extraterritoriality in which you were pleased to request such suggestions as I might deem it important to make, I beg leave to invite your attention to the fact that the provisions

of

of Section 8. of the proposed act as published in the appendix to said Senate document 89- provide for the repeal of all existing laws which invest judicial authority in the United States Minister in Japan and that they also expressly provide for the repeal of Sec. 4124. United States Revised Statutes by which section last named the Secretary of State is authorized through the Minister in Japan to rent furnish and keep suitable buildings in Yedo (Tokei) for a court House and Jail. Inasmuch as the repeal proposed if enacted into law might deprive the United States of the benifit of the existing

contract-

contract of lease of the buildings and grounds in Tokei now occupied by this Legation which lease was made under said Sec. 4124 and with your approval.

I beg leave to suggest that said Section 8. of the proposed Act be so reformed as to provide as follows:

" That Section 4124 United States
" Revised Statutes is amended
" so as to read as in this section
" set forth, and is hereby reenacted
" as part of this act in the
" following words and figures:
" Sec. 4124. The Secretary of State
" is hereby authorized through the
" Minister resident in Japan
to rent furnish and keep
suitable

" Suitable buildings with grounds
" appurtenant in Tokei for the use
" of the Legation in Japan at
" an annual cost not exceeding
" five (5) thousand dollars provided
" that the period for which the build-
" ings shall be rented shall be for
" two years with renewals as the
" Secretary of State may determine."
You will please observe that
this amendment of Section
8 of the proposed act will
clearly save our existing lease
and is substantially the same
as the existing law and is in
the words substantially of the
Statute which authorizes the
Secretary of State to rent buildings
&c in Peking, "for the use of
the

the Legation in China"
Supplement to the Revised Statutes
of the United States volume 1.
p 158 paragraph 6.
Clearly the amendment herein
suggested if adopted will not
only secure the benifit of
our present lease on the terms
therein named but will continue
the authority in the Secretary
of State to provide buildings
as heretofore — for Legation
purposes in this Capital.

I trust the suggestion
which I have ventured to make
may command your approval
2 Specially in view of the fact
that the annual rental under
the existing contract is but

$3,400 00/100 Sixteen hundred
dollars per annum less than
the existing law authorizes
the Secretary of State to contract
to pay annually for such buildings
and grounds both in China and
Japan. As I have before reported
no other buildings suitable for
the use of the Legation can be
leased in this City at any price.

I have the honor to be

Sir.

Your obedient Servant

Jno. A. Bingham

No 1615. United States Legation

Tokei Japan Jan 11th 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB
1883
RECEIVED

Mr. Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.
Receipt of Instructions

No. 1615. United States Legation

Tokei Japan Jan 11th 1883

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Instructions numbered respectively 703 and 704.

I have the honor to be

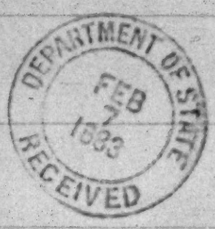
Sir.

Your obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

No. 1616

United States Legation
Yokei Japan. Jan. 11. 1883



Mr. Brigham
to
The Hon. The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr. Brigham forwards Statement of account for the quarter ended Dec. 31 1882.

Enclosures.

Statement of Account, Abstract and Sundry vouchers.

No. 1616

United States Legation,

Tokei, Japan, Jany. 11, 1883

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State

Washington.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to enclose my account for the fourth quarter of the year 1882. You will please observe that I have drawn on account of salary for said quarter, my bill on Messrs Morton Rose & Co. London for £ 616=9=2 Equal to $ 3.000 00 U. S. Gold, and per the banker's certificate I have received for said bill the equivalent of $ 3.000 U. S. gold and no more. I have not drawn anything on account of contingencies for

said quarter. You will also please
note that I credit the government with
balance due from me as shown by my
account of date the 30, September last $99.5
also with $15,00 the amount received by me du
said fourth quarter ended the 31st Dec. 1882
on account of passports; and that my accou
as stated with the vouchers therewith shows
after deducting from said several amounts
credited to the Government as above the sum of
$103.35 the sum expended by me for contingencies
during said quarter that there remains in
my hands due to the government a bal
of $11.20 which sum will be accounted
for by me at the close of the current quar

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. A. Bingham

W. Williams

No 1617. United States Legation

Tokei Japan. Jan. 12th 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Passports issued during the year 1882

No 3

No. 1617. United States Legation

Tokei Japan Jan. 12th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that during the year 1882. there were issued from this Legation passports as follows:

June 14th 1882 to Mr Adolph Sutro upon his affidavit filed, that he is a naturalized citizen of the United States and who is also to me personally known.

Oct. 11th 1882. to Mr John C Ballagh and wife natural born citizens of the United States and upon

Ack by mail & file

File

W Williams

No 1618. United States Legation

Tokei Japan Jan 12th 1883.

Mr Bingham.

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

The advise and consent of the Senate to the ratification of the treaty with Corea as reported by the Foreign Office.

No 1618. United States Legation

Tokei Japan Jan. 12th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

On yesterday His Excellency Mr Inouye His Imperial Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs sent confidentally to me the following telegram which he had just received:

Washington

January 10th 1883.

7-20 P. M.

Gaimusho (Foreign Office)

Tokio.

Senate consented

Tuesday to ratify Corean Treaty
Signed Terashima

I beg leave to congratulate you that this action has been taken by the Senate doubtless in conformity to the recommendation of the President. It is notice to Great Britain and her European allies that our Government will act upon its own judgement independently and without regard to foreign officious dictation and attempted intermeddling in negotiating treaties with the Oriental States.

It has been communicated to me by the Foreign Office that the British Government has referred the Corean treaty concluded by

that

that Government with Corea to the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce and requested the opinion thereof upon its provisions. In the Japan Daily Herald of the 6th instant the following appears editorially:

"With respect to the English
"treaty with Corea we have learnt
"that Sir Julian Pauncefote
"the permanent under Secretary
"of the Foreign Office has taken
"the very proper and sensible
"step of remitting it to the
"Shanghai Chamber of Commerce,
"for the purpose of obtaining
"the opinions of its members on
"its provisions, and the Chamber
"has been assured that its views

will

" will receive every Consideration
" from Earl Granville, the Minister
" for Foreign Affairs."

Whatever may be the final action of Great Britain in the premises, it is gratifying to know that our Government has been the first of the western powers to conclude and ratify a Treaty of commerce and friendship with Corea and of which Treaty it may be said it is more liberal and just than any Treaty which has yet been concluded and ratified by any European state with either of the Oriental Governments.

I have the honor to be
Sir.
Your obedient Servant
W. A. Parsons

File

No 1619

Williams

United States Legation

Tokei, Japan Jan 12. 1883

Mr. Brigham

to

The Hon. The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Reception of the Foreign Representatives by H. M. the Emperor of Japan on New Years day 1883. and Banquet on Jan 14th 1883.

No 1619.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Jan. 12 1883

Hon Frederick T Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State

Washington

Sir:

On the 1st day of the current year His Majesty the Emperor received the foreign Representatives and their families and exchanged with them severally the usual felicitations and afterwards on the 5th instant His Majesty gave a banquet at the Imperial Palace which I had the honor to attend.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Your obedient Servant

Jno. A. Bingham

Acknl

W Williams

No 1620. United States Legation

Tokei Japan January 12th. 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 7 1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of States.

Subject.

Translation of the recent Convention concluded between China and Corea furnished by His Excellency Mr Inouye to Mr Bingham and the views of Mr Bingham in relation thereto.

Enclosures

Mr Inouye to Mr Bingham dated 10th of January 1883.

Translation of convention between China and Corea.

No 1620. United States Legation

Tokei Japan January 12th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

On the 10th instant I received from His Excellency Mr Inouye a private note a copy of which is herewith enclosing for my information a translation of the convention recently concluded between China and Corea to which I made reference in my No. 1598 (Confedential) the original of which translation I have the honor to enclose.

A mere perusal of this somewhat remarkable document will satisfy any one that although it thunders in the preamble that "Corea has long formed one of China's feudatories" in the text of the convention it is clearly an agreement between the sovereign powers of China and Corea. From the 1st to the last article of the convention you will find abundant evidence of this and the express recognition that China and Corea are the high contracting parties and are distinct and separate nationalities. I have given you my first impressions of this paper which as a general

rule

rule are the just conclusions to be drawn from the words employed.

It seems to me for reasons assigned in my r No 1592. that there is nothing in this convention which can by possibility impair our Treaty or that of Japan with Corea, or that can preclude other Powers not parties to the enclosed convention from treating with Corea as an independent State, and as possessing all the attributes and entitled to all the rights of an independent State.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient Servant.
Wm. A. Pinkham

Enclosure No 1.

Copy with No 1620.

Foreign Office

Jan. 10th 1883.

My dear Mr. Bingham

I enclose for your information the English translation of the Trade Regulations recently concluded between China and Korea, which I promised some time ago to forward to you. Though the name of Convention is given to it, when we know the Regulations are agreed to just in exact terms as were proposed by Li Hong Chang, you will agree with me when I say that they are more in the nature of a Command given by Li to the King of Korea. By these Regulations China has obtained such special privileges — as are not accorded either to America or Japan, and if I am not much mistaken, both countries are entitled to demand from Korea the same favors; indeed I for one made up my mind

to do so.

Hoping this English translation may be of use to your Government and Yourself.

I remain

Very sincerely Yours

Inouye Kaoru

Enclosure No 2. with No. 1620.

Copy

Translation

Regulations for the conduct of trade by sea and land between Chinese and Korean subjects.

Korea has long formed one of China's pendatories, and the etiquette to be observed between them is subject to well defined rules, which do not require to be changed or discussed. But as commercial intercourse by sea has now been admitted with other nations, it is desirable that no time should be lost in removing the maritime prohibitions, and in enabling subjects of both countries (China and Korea) to carry on trade with each other and share in its benefits. The circumstances of the time also necessarily entail some modifications of the

regulations for the conduct of the frontier trade. The motive of the present regulations for the conduct of trade both by sea and land is the desire of China to extend to a subject state favoured treatment which differs in its character from that which other nations on an ordinary footing would obtain, The following articles have accordingly been determined upon.

Article 1.

The Minister ~~Superintending~~ the Northern Trade shall hencefoward appoint Commissioners of Trade to reside at the open ports of Korea, to exercise exclusive superintendence over Chinese merchants, who shall transact business with the Korean Authorities on a footing of perfect equality, and receive favoured

treatment in accordance with (the prescribed) etiquette, but as it is undesirable that any questions of importance that may arise should be decided by them and the Korean authorities on their own unrestricted responsibility, the (said Commissioners) shall refer (such questions) to the minister superintending the Northern Trade, who will address the King of Korea, and the latter shall then instruct his government to arrange them. The King of Korea on his part shall appoint a high officer to reside at Tientsin, and others to reside at the open ports of China, to discharge the functions of Commissioners of Trade. The said Commissioners shall likewise transact business on a footing of equality with the intendants of circuit. District magistrates of both grades,

and other local authorities & should any question arise involving doubt or difficulty, they may refer it to the Minister superintending the Northern or Southern Trade, as the case may be, through the High officer stationed at Tien-tsin, for his decision. The Commissioners of Trade of both countries shall respectively defray their own expenditure, and shall not be permitted to extort illegal gratifications for their own requirements. Should the said Commissioners have any difference of opinion arising from their own personal bias, the Minister superintending the Northern Trade and the King of Korea shall at once remove them after communication with each other.

Article II

Of Chinese Merchants residing

residing at an open port of Korea should have any complaints to make, the same shall be adjudicated by the Chinese Commissioners of Trade, and in all cases concerning property, or of a criminal nature, where Korean subjects are plaintiffs and Chinese subjects are defendants the Chinese Commissioners of Trade shall have power to make arrests and adjudicate.

Where Chinese subjects are plaintiffs and Korean subjects are defendants the Korean Authorities shall produce the offender and try him in concert with the Chinese Commissioners of Trade in accordance with the laws. All cases concerning the property owned or offences committed by Korean subjects at the open ports of China shall be adjudicated

by the Chinese local authorities irrespective of the nationality of the plaintiff and defendant, in accordance with the laws, and the result shall be communicated to the Korean Commissioners, who shall be furnished with (a copy of) the record. Should a Korean subject be dissatisfied with the decision, he may appeal through the Korean Commissioners of Trade to the Higher authorities in order that justice may be done, Korean subjects bringing their complaints before the Chinese Commissioners of Trade in their own country, or, if in China, before the (Chinese) local authorities, shall not be subject to exactions of any kind on the part of any Chinese subject or subordinate official, and the controlling officer shall be severely punished for any infringement of this rule. If any subject

of either state, whether residing in his own country, or in open port of the other contracting party, who has offended against the laws of his own country, should take refuge within the frontiers of the other country, the local authorities shall, in communication with the commissioner of Trade of the other country, take measures for his arrest and surrender to the nearest commissioner of Trade, for transmission in custody to his own country for punishment. On the way thither he shall simply be placed under restraint, and shall not be subjected to any cruel treatment.

Article III

The ships of either country shall be permitted to resort to the open ports of the other for purposes of trade in all kinds of merchandize, and they

shall respectively pay such customs dues as has been determined between the two countries. Should they encounter storms, or be driven a-shore on the coast of the other, they may put in to the nearest place to purchase food and effect repairs, and the expense of the same shall be defrayed by the owner of the vessel, the local authorities merely exercising supervision. In case of shipwreck the local authorities shall take measures to afford assistance and protection, and shall forward the passengers and crew to the Commissioner of Trade at the nearest open port, for transmission to their own country, in order to avoid the cost of conveyance which has hitherto been incurred. Should any merchant vessel of either country, except through stress

of

of weather, or for the purpose of repairing damages, clandestinely enter any unopened port to trade, the ship and cargo shall be confiscated. But the fishing vessels of both countries shall be permitted to frequent the coasts of Hwang-hai-do and Phyŏng-an-do in Korea, and Ning-tien, Shantung, and other provinces to catch fish, and to land for the purpose of purchasing food and water, but they shall not carry on any unauthorized commercial dealings. In case of a violation of this regulation, the vessel and cargo shall be confiscated. Should any offence be committed at a place where such fishing vessel may touch, the local authorities shall arrest the delinquent and hand him over to the nearest Commissioner of Trade, to be punished

in accordance with Article II. The dues to be paid by the fishing vessels of the two contracting parties shall be determined by further negotiation, after the expiration of two years from the date of (the present regulations) being enforced.

Note. Shantung fishermen who are yearly in the habit of unauthorizedly visiting Ja-cheng-tao and Sho-chang-tao off Kwang-hai-do in Korea to catch the fish that are frightened away by steamers from their own coasts to the opposite shore, number a thousand in the course of a year.

In Korea Sho-chang-do and Yai-chang-do

Article III.

The merchants of either country resorting to the open ports of the other for purposes of trade, and peaceably pursuing their callings, shall be permitted to rent land and houses, and to build dwellings, and

may deal in all kinds of produce, not being prohibited goods, and may transport produce upon which the import and export duties and the shipping dues have been paid in accordance with the ordinary customs regulations from one part to another. Goods upon which the export duty has been paid, shall be entitled, when re-imported, upon production of a permit, to a refund of one half of the duty already paid. Merchants shall not be permitted to transport merchandize of any kind into the interior or open shops there and sell goods, with the reservation, however, of the right of Korean merchants to trade at Peking, and of Chinese merchants to open commercial establishments in Yang-hwa-chin and the Korean Capital. Should the merchants of either country desire

to go into the interior of the other country for the purpose of buying produce, they must apply for permission to the Commissioner of Trade, who, in conjunction with the local authorities, may grant a permit issued in their joint names, in which the place where the purchase is to be made shall be stated, and such merchants shall be permitted to hire carts, horses, and boats, subject however, to the payment of the transit dues. Subject of either country travelling in the interior for their pleasure, before proceeding on their journey must apply to the Commissioner of Trade, who, in conjunction with the local authorities, may issue a passport in their joint names. Should such persons Commit an offence while travelling, the local authorities shall arrest and forward them to the nearest open port to be punished

in

in accordance with Article II. On the way thither they shall simply be placed under restraint, and shall not be subjected to any cruel treatment

Article V.

It has hitherto been the practice for the trading posts at Wi-ju Sku-ryŏng and Okyŏng-wŏn on the frontier between the two countries to be left entirely in the hands of the officials, and great obstruction has been the invariable consequence. It is now hereby determined that at the Barriers on the opposite sides of the Yalao-kiang at Wi-ju, and at Sku-wan-Chun* and Sku-ryŏng, on the opposite banks of the Tumen-River, the people may come and go for trading purposes as they may find convenient. The two Governments shall simply establish barriers at these trading stations, in order to keep a watch

Lat Long
39.59. 124.43
39.29. 129.29
42.44. 130.18

Manchuria
42 lat
long.

against banditti and to collect the customs dues. The customs dues on imports and exports shall not exceed 5 per cent ad-valorem except upon red Ginseng all the expenditure hitherto incurred for buildings, rice-allowances, fodder, and entertainments shall be discontinued. Cases in which the property of, or offences committed by, the inhabitants of the frontier are concerned shall be respectively decided by the local authorities of the two countries according to the fixed laws. The minor regulations shall be arranged by special officers sent to the above-named localities by the Minister Superintending the Northern Trade and the King of Korea, who will submit their arrangements for ratification by (the Emperor of China).

Article VI

The merchants of the

two countries are prohibited from importing or selling opium, whether foreign or native (Chinese) and arms or munitions, at any port or point of the frontier whatsoever, and all offenders shall be arrested, and severely dealt with, according to the gravity of the offence. With respect to red Ginseng the practice has been to permit Korean merchants to import it into the Chinese territory, and the duty thereon will be 15 per cent Ad-Valorem. Should any Chinese merchants secretly transport any red Ginseng out of the Korean territory, without having obtained the permission of the Government, he shall be arrested and the Ginseng be confiscated.

Article VII.

The intercourse of the two countries has hitherto been

carried on along the post-road passing through the Barriers, and has been attended with heavy charges and exactions. The prohibitions against maritime intercourse having now been removed, intercourse should now of course be permitted by sea: As Korea possesses no war or merchant steamers the King of Korea may request the Minister Superintending the Northern Trade to despatch for the present a steamer of the China Merchants Company once a month at a fixed date, the Korean Government contributing a portion of the expense. The vessels of the Chinese Navy shall furthermore visit the coast of Korea, and call at the different ports to afford protection. The local authorities shall be entirely exempted from the necessity of furnishing supplies,

which

which when required shall be paid for by the Chinese ships of war. The Commanding officers of the ships of war, and their subordinates, shall be on a footing of equality with the Korean local authorities, both parties treating each other with special courtesy. When the sailors land, they shall be placed under strict discipline by the officers of the ships so as to prevent disturbance.

Article VIII

In the Trade Regulations hereby established the object aimed at has been simplicity and brevity. The officials and people of both countries shall be bound to observe the whole of their contents. Should any necessity hereafter arise for the introduction of modifications, the Minister Superintending

the Northern Trade, and the King of Korea shall, in communication with each other, consider such further arrangements as may seem advisable, and submit the same for ratification (by the Emperor of China)

Li, Superintendant of the Northern Trade, Governor-General of Chili etc, etc
Chou, Customs Taotai
Makenchang.
Choneika, Corean Ambassador
Kinkoshu, Corean Vice Ambassador
Kugainchu, Corean Councillor

8th Month 8th year of Kwong Su.

No 1621.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 23 1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Jan. 19th 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.
Return of Customs of Japan
for the month of November 1882.

Enclosure
Duplicate copies of Returns of Customs
for the months of November 1882.

No 1621.

United States Legation
Yokei Japan Jan. 19th 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to enclose for your information the "Monthly Returns of His Imperial Majesty's Customs of Japan for the month of November 1882."

By this returns you will observe that the total value of domestic exports for the month was gold yen 3,217,839 63/96 and of the imports of foreign productions for the same period was gold yen 2,364,014 57/96

showing

showing that the exports were in excess of the imports to the amount in gold yen 853,825.5/8 cts.

It further appears from the returns that the Specie and bullion exported during the month was in value gold yen 259,924.87 and the imports thereof gold yen 462,712.00, showing that the import was in excess of the exports thereof, gold yen 202,787.13/8 cts

I have the honor
to be, Sirs
Your obedient servants
Wm. A. Bingham

No 16 22.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 23 1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Jan 20th 1883

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.

Mr Binghams Accounts in duplicate for the fourth quarter of the year 1882.

Enclosure

Duplicate Statements of Accounts with Vouchers for the fourth quarter of 1882.

No 1622.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Jan 26th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my No 1616 of date the 11th instant with which I had the honor to enclose my Quarterly accounts for the fourth (4th) quarter of the year 1882.— I beg leave to enclose herewith a duplicate copy thereof together with the vouchers thereto annexed.

I have the honor to be,
Sir, Your obedient Servant.
Jno. A. Bingham

Japan

No 1623.

United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. Jan. 24th 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject

Mr. Bingham forwards an extract from the "Japan Weekly Mail" regarding the liberal policy of the United States towards Japan and Corea.

No 1623. United States Legation

Tokei, Japan, Jan. 24th. 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to enclose for your information an editorial article entitled America Japan and England which appeared on the 20th instant in the Japan Weekly Mail, an English Journal published at Yokohama.

It is significant that this article calls special attention to the liberal policy of the United States towards Japan and Corea and to the illiberal policy of England

towards Japan and declares, that among all Japan's treaty friends "America is the most trusted and the most consulted" and that "English influence remains at a palpable discount," and that "English obstinacy alone, stands to-day between Japan and the recognition of those rights which it is the paramount object of all her asperations to acquire". You will please observe that a quotation is made by the Editor from my No 1320 to Mr Blaine which was published in the Foreign Relations for 1881 - wherein reference is made by me to the unjust restrictions of the Convention of 1866. I regret that the Editor did not in addition to that which he quoted

from my dispatch as published,
further quote my suggestion
therein that "if our government
would say to Japan; we consent
"to strike from our treaty which
"we concluded in 1878 with
"His Imperial Japanese Majesty
"its tenth (10th) Article and
"adopt in lieu thereof reciprocal
"conditions, I believe it would
"work the liberation of this
"Government from the offensive
"and oppressive restrictions of the
"Convention of 1866, and promote
"for all time our commercial
"interests in this Empire. (Foreign
Relation 1881 p. 727) I am gratified
that this English Editor of
acknowledged ability, has ventured

to say so much as he has said in commendation of our policy and in condemnation of the persistent refusal of Great Britain to show Japan any quarter whatever in her just demand to be free to exercise her inherent rights and control her most essential interests.

In my opinion the article was intended by the Editor to suggest for the consideration of the English Government that there is no longer any color of excuse for withholding from Japan substantially, what was insisted upon by her in the late conference for the revision of her Treaties with the

western States.

I have the Honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Wm A Bingham

Enclosure 1 in No. 1623.

Extract from the Japan Weekly Mail Jan. 20, 1883.

AMERICA, JAPAN, AND ENGLAND.

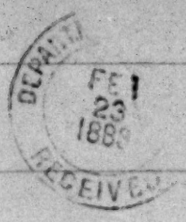
EVENTS are certainly tending to impart a character of exceptional concord to the relations existing between America and Japan. It is not long since the United States took the initiative in amending their treaty with this country, modifying or expunging those clauses which were especially inconsistent with the rights of equal freedom that ought to exist between States as between individuals. Up to the present, this action has remained without practical result, but its abortiveness, so far from being chargeable to American reluctance or bad faith, has rather had the effect of giving additional salience to American affability. For nothing is wanted to render the revised treaty operative except the consent of other powers to adopt its provisions; and the longer that consent is withheld, the greater contrast does American liberality offer to European selfishness. In a despatch addressed by Mr. Bingham to Mr. Blaine under date June 21st, 1881, the former, referring to the "refusal of Western nations to repeal the unjust restrictions of the conventions of 1866," asks:—"How long will the free and enlightened people of the Western nations tolerate this great wrong?" Doubtless many Englishmen will be disposed to regard utterances of this nature as mere "bunkum," but without discussing the propriety of such an appellation, we may be permitted to observe that America has lost nothing by her suavity. Among all Japan's treaty friends she is at present the most trusted and the most consulted. English Princes have come and gone without suffering themselves to be betrayed into any exhibition of sympathy, and English members of Parliament who have ventured to say a good word for Japan, have been derided or accused of venal motives. But when General Grant visited this country he performed a rôle very different from that of an ordinary sight-seer. From the first he evinced a lively interest in Japan's efforts and their outcome, making no attempt to conceal his appreciative esteem for a people who have accomplished so much in so short a time and in despite of such great hinderances. Geniality costs nothing, but often brings in a large return. At the hands of English diplomats and English merchants, Japan meets with little but cold disdain and unsympathetic imperiousness. True, she is sometimes told to take comfort—reminded that a Spartan discipline is, after all, the most wholesome medicine for States as well as for children; but whatever faith she may once have been disposed to put in this doctrine, has long ago been shaken by a discovery that the object of its application is in no way connected with her benefit. She sees herself the victim of that old fashioned heresy which lies at the root of all tyranny and oppression—the absurdly illogical idea that coercion is justifiable so long as any degree of incompetence exists in its subject; or, in other words, that men who have not a full endowment of faculties ought to be denied the free use of those they have. She is not to be allowed to control her own tariff or exercise even a limited amount of jurisdiction over foreigners residing in her territories, until she has indisputably established her ability to do both one and the other to the entire satisfaction of everybody concerned. It is possible that she fails to see how this is to be accomplished so long as an opportunity to make the trial is denied her, and it is possible also that she is puzzled to discern the abstract justice of curtailing her legitimate rights lest their exercise should encroach on the assumed privileges of others. But an expression of these doubts elicits sympathy from Americans only, and as a necessary consequence, Americans only get the credit of being just and generous. Had General Grant been an Englishman, we question very much whether his advice about the Riukiu complication would have received such implicit compliance at the hands of Japanese statesmen. So too, it was to the American Minister that they went for counsel in their Korean trouble, and the guidance of the same authority has recently been sought and followed in more than one important instance. We are much mistaken, too, if America's Korean treaty does not prove a fresh bond of sympathy between her and Japan. The Senate, by consenting to the ratification without waiting to ascertain how the status of the Hermit Kingdom is affected by its suzerain's present attitude, has placed the United States in precisely the same position as Japan *vis-à-vis* China. Both have been parties to an act which virtually recognizes Korea's independence, and both owe it to their dignity to ascertain definitely that the sovereign of a country with which they have contracted treaty obligations is something more than a Chinese Viceroy. Japan will certainly be wise enough to make common cause with the United States in whatever negotiations may be necessitated by these complications, and the *entente cordiale* already existing between the Cabinets at Washington and Tokiyo cannot fail to be further strengthened in the sequel. During the present year, too, we may expect that the return of the Shimonoseki indemnity will become an accomplished fact, and whatever view America's former associates may take of this proceeding, it cannot be denied that the effect of her act will be to dissociate her from a policy which must always be remembered with some bitterness by the Japanese people.

So far as Japan is concerned, we have nothing but congratulations to offer her on the happy intimacy of her relations with the Great Republic. But we frankly confess to a sentiment of considerable chagrin when we contrast the overwhelming preponderance of British interests in this country with the insignificance of British influence. Even when ample allowance has been made for the greater propinquity of the United States and for the fact that the professed spirit of their foreign policy renders it particularly attractive to Oriental eyes, we find ample reason remaining to be perplexed at the inferior position to which Englishmen have gradually been relegated. It is not that they are found wanting in any of the points which constitute a title to consideration. For commercial enterprise English merchants have been at least as conspicious as anybody else; English students have easily carried off the palm as interpreters of Japanese history and sociology; English diplomatists have been served by an abler staff than any of their colleagues could command; English sovereigns have found their way into the Treasury at Tokiyo; English

engineers have built Japan's railways; English officers organized her navy; English scientists trained her students, and English soldiers and sailors dealt her harder blows than the soldiers and sailors of any other power. Yet all those things seem to count for little or nothing. English influence remains at a palpable discount. Like the currency, it has depreciated, but unlike the currency, it unfortunately exhibits no tendency to recover its proper level. Doubtless, more than one cause has combined to produce this result, but for all practical purposes one cause and one only need be noted. English obduracy alone stands to-day between Japan and the recognition of those rights which it is the paramount object of all her aspirations to acquire. We need not pause here to consider whether English obduracy is justified or not. Everybody is very well aware that if there is any sacrifice to be made in this matter, it falls most heavily upon Great Britain, who has incomparably the largest interests at stake. But if a principle is right, all the consequences its practice involves must be justifiable. That is a shabby species of morality—a morality least of all suited to English character and English traditions—which makes the necessity of obeying its precepts inversely proportional to the inconvenience incurred in the process. That America, Russia, and Germany can afford to be more generous than Great Britain, or that their obligation to be just is less a matter of expediency than hers, we altogether decline to believe. Something of the sort, however, has certainly come to be believed by the Japanese, and although it does not matter much to Great Britain from a material point of view what fashion of reputation she enjoys at this end of the world, it matters a good deal to Englishmen in Japan; while, as an abstract fact, it furnishes food for reflection to all who admit that force is no longer the most important factor of international intercourse.

Approve his
Course. The pro-
position of Mr
Bingham seems rea-
sonable and S. Conc
curs in them. Co-
not forgotten an interest
pied to. R.B.H.
Feby 27 '83
Cipher

No. 1624



United States Legation,
Tokei, Japan, Jan 24 1883.

Mr. Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Proposition to take down the dilapidated warehouses at Ebisuminato made by the Japanese government. Discussion of said proposition by a conference of Foreign Representatives Jan 9, 1883 & its results.

No. 1627.

United States Legation

Tokei, Japan, Jan. 29. 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

On the 21st ultimo His Excellency Mr. Inouye His Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs addressed a note to me, (a translation copy of which is herewith) wherein he requested my approval of a proposition therein made by His Majesty's Government, to wit, to take down the dilapidated warehouses at the port of Ebisuminato on the island of Sado and supply in

view thereof warehousing at Ebisumminato for the storage of all foreign imports at that port or the port of Niigata.

You will observe that the Minister states in his note as the reason for this action that the repair of the present warehouses which require reconstruction would involve a large expenditure of money which would not be justified as there is almost no foreign shipping at the Port of Niigata.

Reference is made in the note to the 7th "Article of the Arrangements" for the Settlement of foreigners at Niigata and Ebisumminato, the latter being the shipping port of Niigata. A reference to said agreement made in 1867 by the Foreign Representatives of Great Britain, Holland, France and the United States with

Japan will show that it was therein
stipulated that the Japanese Government
would construct at Ebisuminato in the
island of Sado proper warehouse accommo-
dation in accordance with the requirements
of trade in which foreign imports might be
stored rent free for the space of thirty days.
See Volume of Treaties & Conventions with
Japan heretofore transmitted by me to the
Department p.p. 390-392.

In view of the fact that we have no trade
with Niigata or Ebisuminato and believing
the Japanese Go-downs to be the safest and
best of all ware-houses constructed by Japanese
I replied on the 22 ultimo to Mr. Iriouye to the
effect that as at present advised I saw
no objection to the suggestions made in
his note and therefore I approved the same
on the condition therein named.

2/16 24

a copy of which reply I have the honor to enclose. The Minister having addressed a like note to the several other Foreign Representatives Sir Harry S. Parkes the British Minister invited my Colleagues and myself to a conference on the subject of the note on the 9th instant which together with all my colleagues I attended on that day. Five (5) of the nine foreign Representatives concurred with me, to wit, those of Russia, Holland, Belgium, Spain, and Italy. in approving the proposal of this government on the condition stated in Mr. Seward's note; while Sir Harry, the French Minister and the German Charge d' Affaires declined to give it their approval. You will thus see that two of the cosignatories to the Agreement approved and two disapproved the proposed use of Godowns

by this Government for the Storage of foreign imports at the places named. Not satisfied with this the English Minister further asked the judgment of the Conference whether His Japanese Majesty's Government had not in contravention of existing treaties and of the 7th Article of said "Arrangements prohibited the leasing of lands to foreigners at Niigata and Ebisuminato." Sir Harry stated that this Government had declared that Japanese should not lease their lands to foreigners at each of said ports for a longer period than five years. I called attention to the fact that the English Minister in the late treaty revision Conference had made a charge to the effect that this Government prohibited Japanese at these ports from leasing their lands to

foreigners, to which Mr. Shioda the Japanese delegate replied at the time that his government had made no such prohibition. I further said that I had heard no complaints in the premises from any American citizen, neither did I believe that this Government was restricted by existing Treaties or by the "Articles of Arrangement" from prescribing the tenures of lands at the ports named. Sir then views the Russian Dutch, Belgian, Spanish & Italian Representatives concurred with me, Sir Harry together with the French and German Representatives dissenting.

It seems to me that the limitation of leases by an order of this government to a term of five years can hardly

be construed to forbid as many renewals of such leases with foreigners or others for a like term as the parties thereto may agree upon, and therefor it cannot justly be said that Japanese are forbidden to lease their lands to foreigners within the places named.

It is some satisfaction to know that five of the European States at present diplomatically represented in Japan no longer follow England's dictation or join in England's demands upon this people. I trust that this departure of the five European States may be followed by a still further advance towards fair play and right dealing in the revision of the treaties with Japan substantially upon the

basis proposed in the recent
conference as reported by me to
you in my No. 1568 dated Sept.
23d 1882.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Jno A. Bingham

Enclosure 1. in No. 1624

Copy

Translation

No 62.

Foreign Office, Tokio
The 21st the 12th Month
the 15th Year Meiji.

His Excellency
John A. Bingham
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the U. S. A.

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency that I have received from His Excellency the Minister of Finance communication to the effect that as there has been, of late, almost no foreign shipping in the port of Niigata and the warehouses on the Island of Sado have fallen into such a dilapidated and unavailable condition as to require reconstruction

Having regard however to the present state of foreign trade at the said port, the Finance Department are of opinion that a large expenditure of money to rebuild the warehouses is hardly called for, and consequently propose to pull down the existing erections on condition that at any time in case of need, the Government shall rent godowns belonging to private individuals, for the purpose of warehousing foreign imports in order to prevent inconvenience to the interest of commerce.

As this proposal affects the first Article of "Arrangements for the Settlement of Foreigners at Niigata and Ebisuminato" of 1867 I beg to bring it under Your con-

sideration. I trust that the suggestion will meet with your approval as no inconvenience will result in any way to the foreign trade if godowns belonging to individuals are rented by the Government for the purposes indicated, and I shall feel obliged if your Excellency will favour me with your views upon this subject at an early date.

I avail myself of this occation to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration

Inouye Kaoru

H. I. M's Minister for

Foreign Affairs.

Copy Enclosure 2 in No 1624.

No. 1934. United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. Dec. 22nd 1882.

H. E. Inouye Kaoru

&c. &c. &c.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge your note No 62. of date the 21st instant in which you acquaint me that the warehouses on the Island of Sado having fallen into decay, the Finance Department is of opinion that a large expenditure at said port of Niigata to rebuild warehouses is not called for, and therefore proposes to pull down the existing structures on consideration that at any time in case of need the Government shall rent Godowns for the purpose of

warehousing foreign imports and thereby prevent inconvenience to foreign commerce.

In further answer to your note, I beg leave to say that as at present advised I see no objection to the suggestion made and above stated and therefore I give the same my approval on the condition named.

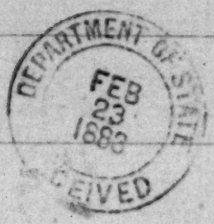
Accept the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

Jno. A Bingham

Rec'd Feby 28/83 Cr'dlr

No 1625

Mr Mich



United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. Jan 25th 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State

Subject

Mr Bingham Recommends the appointment of Dr Willis N. Whitney citizen of the United States to the office of Interpreter of Ligation to succeed Mr Frazier resigned.

No 1625

United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. Jan. 25th 1883.

Honorable Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my No 1612 of date the 10th instant with which I had the honor to enclose a letter of Mr Frazier addressed to You wherein he resigned the office of Interpreter to this Legation to take effect on the 31st of March next; I now beg leave to recommend the appointment to the office of Interpreter to this Legation Dr. Willis R. Whitney a citizen

of the United States and a native of the State of New Jersey. Mr Whitney's residence has heretofore been Newark New Jersey. You may remember that you favored Mr Whitney with a letter of introduction to me of date the 23rd of May last. I have been acquainted with him and his father's family for a number of years during their residence in Japan. I know Mr Whitney to be well qualified to be interpreter and that he is a gentleman of excellent character and do not hesitate to say that if appointed Interpreter to this Legation he will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office.

It is hardly necessary to say that an Interpreter is essential to our diplomatic Service here. My staff consisting only of a Secretary and Interpreter have during my past service here performed as much labor in my opinion as the staff of the English Legation which includes two English Secretaries also one Interpreting Secretary and several Student interpreters. Allow me to add that Mr Jaudon whom I recommended for the office of Secretary of Legation is a good french scholar and was during the late civil war as he had been for years before a citizen of New York and was a member

of the 7th Regiment of that city
and with his Regiment responded
to the calls of President Lincoln.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Jno. A. Bingham

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR
1
1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Feb. 5th, 83

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith duplicate account of my salary for the quarter ending December 31st 1882.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Obedient Servant

J. R. Brazier.

Mr Wing
+
Mr Scudder

No 1626

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Feb. 9th 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of
State.

Subject

Mr Bingham transmits duplicate of the monthly Return of Customs of Japan for the month of December 1882.

Enclosure

Return of Customs of Japan for December 1882 in duplicate

No 1626

United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. Feb. 9th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to enclose for your information Duplicates of the Monthly return of His Imperial Majesty's Customs of Japan for the month of December 1882. from which it appears that the export of domestic productions for the month was of the value in gold Yen 3.284.598 $\frac{65}{00}$ and that the value of foreign productions

imported amounted to gold Yen 2.249.130 28/00 the exports being in excess of the imports to the amount of gold Yen 1.035.468. 36/00 - It further appears that the value of specie and bullion exported within the month was gold Yen 266.487. 33/00 and that the value of the import thereof was gold Yen 203.800.00 — the export being in excess of the import gold Yen 52.687. 33/00

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Jn. A. Bingham

Mr. Mills

From Dept for Signal Office
March 20. 83
Crosby

No 1627.

United States Legation

Tokei, Japan. 9th Feb. 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of

State

Subject

Reports of the Imperial Meteorological observatory Tokio, and of the several stations in Japan.

Enclosures

Duplicate Reports of the Imp. Observatory Tokio.

No 1627

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 9th Feb. 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to Enclose for the information of our signal service reports of the Imperial meteorological observatory Tokei and of the several stations at Kochi, Kanagawa, Niigata, Hiroshima, Aomori, Kioto and Nagasaki.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your Obedient Servant
Jno. A. Bingham

No. 1628

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 9th Feb. 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary
of State
Subject.
Receipt of Instructions
No 705 and 706 with enclosure

No. 1628

United States Legation
Tokei, Japan 9th Feb. 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Instructions numbered respectively 705 and 706 with Enclosures.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Jno A Bingham

Mr. Mitty

No 1629 Acknowledges receipt of com. relative to proposed reorganization of police. March 20, 83 Order.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 13th Feb 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject

Mr Binghams call on Prince Arisugawa on his return from Europe and the United States.

No 1629

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 13th Feb. 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

On the 2nd instant the Prince Arisugawa Marshal and second prime Ministen of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan arrived direct from the United States and was immediatly received in audience by His Imperial Majesty.

On the 5th instant, I called upon the Prince and congratulated him upon his safe return from Europe and America.

The Prince took occasion to say that he was much impressed with the United States, with the great city New York, with the grand Public buildings in Washington, and with the vast country and its extensive Rail roads from New York to the Pacific. He also spoke of the exceeding kindness shown to him by the President, by yourself and other Cabinet Ministers, and of his visit to the tomb of Washington. The Prince said that he desired that I would communicate to you his acknowledgements of these attentions thus shown him which it is manifest he gratefully remembers. I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Wm A Bunker

Confidential

Mr. Bingham

No 1630

Dated (confidential) March 21 '83
Cridler

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 13th Feb. 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject
Confidential
Report of conversation of Sir Harry Parkes with His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister for Foreign affairs to the effect that the United States had not ratified and were not likely to ratify the Corean treaty.

Confidential

No 1630.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 13th Feb 1883.

Hon Frederick T Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

On the 25th ultimo His Excellency Mr Inouye the Minister for Foreign Affairs, confidentially said to me that Sir Harry S. Parkes Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in Japan had informed him on the 23d ult. the Corean treaty negotiated by Commodore Sheefeldt had not been ratified by the United States nor was it likely to be. In this connection Mr Inouye referred to the

telegram which he had received Jany 10th last from Mr Terashima that the Senate had consented to the ratification of the Corean treaty (a copy which he had furnished me as reported in my No 1618. of the 12th ultimo) and expressed his surprise that the British Minister should have information that the Treaty had not been ratified and wished to know what ground there was for the statement made by Sir Harry. I answered that I had no such information nor do I know by what authority the British Minister assumed to advise this Government of the action of our government in relation to the Corean Treaty or of its purpose

not to ratify it. To this Mr Inouye replied that was Sir Harry's way that he often pretended to represent the views of the Government of the United States. When I said I should report this conversation to you Mr Inouye said it must be held to be strictly confidential but that he would not object to my reporting it confidentially in a dispatch to You.

The significance of the British Minister's remarks lies chiefly in the fact that he and his Government have been exceedingly desirous that our Government should reject the Corean Treaty which prohibits with severe penalties the importation of opium

into that Kingdom under the flag either of Corea or of the United States a provision which in my opinion is alike just and humane but which Great Britain would rid herself of by diplomacy, or if need be, (as she did with China) by the logic of shot and shell.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Wm. H. Brigham

Ack'd file

No 1631.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Feb. 13th 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State

Subject

The Article of the Japan Herald of Jan. 27th 1883 condemnatory of the United States Treaty of 1878 with Japan and also of the Corean Treaty and denunciatory of the United States government, the Japanese government and the American Ministers.

Enclosure 1. Extract from the Japan Daily

Herrald of Jan. 27, 1883.

No 1631

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Feb. 13th 1883.

Hon Frederick T Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

In my No 1623 of the 24th ultimo I had the honor to enclose for your information an Editorial of the Japan Weekly Mail of the 20th ultimo entitled "America, Japan, and England." This Editorial has excited the ire of the Japan Herald, an English Journal exclusively in English interests and hostile alike to Japan and the United States, - as shown

by a leader in the Daily issue
of that Journal of the 27th ultimo
1/1630 a copy of which is herewith enclosed.
This is the same Editor who during
my first year's service here threa-
tened and favored a renewal
of "the gun boat policy" by the
foreign Powers against Japan,
all of which I reported to the
department, and because of my
refusal to bind myself to such
policy I then incurred and have
ever since been subjected to the
displeasure of that Journal as
my dispatches bear witness. The
Editor you will observe is equally
denunciatory of our government and
of its representative at this Court,
denouncing our Treaty of 1878

with Japan as "a secret and abortive
"treaty which in bad faith with
"the other Powers, the United States,
"at the instigation of Mr Bingham -
"entered into with Japan". This un-
seemly denounciation one would
think ought to have been suppor-
ted by some statement founded
in fact to justify the assertion
that it was bad faith on the
part of our government towards
Great Britain or any other fore-
ign State for our government
to conclude a commercial treaty
with Japan without first con-
sulting those Powers and first
obtaining their Consent. The Editors
subsequent remarks in this article
by no means justify his arrogant

denounciation of our government. —
He fails to show wherein the United
States government was under the
slightest obligation to consult —
Great Britain in the matter, or
wherein our government acted
in "bad faith" with the other —
Powers. They were not consulted
when we negotiated our first
treaty with Japan through Com-
modore Perry. nor when we nego-
tiated our second and third —
Treaties with Japan in 1857 and
1858. through Mr Harris. It re-
mains to be shown when and by whom
the United States Government was
divested of its rightful and supreme
power to negotiate and ratify —
Treaties with Japan without —

consulting any European Power.
Still more offensive if possible,
is the suggestion of this truculent
" Editor that "the relations of Japan
" with the great Republic if main-
" tained at other peoples expense
" will we fear, be found by Japan,
" in the long run, to be a short
" sighted procedure bringing most
" probably its own punishment
" with it. In the East it may
" with truth be affirmed where
" America has no territory and
" scarcely any trade, that she has
" no policy of a very determinate
" character." It is gratifing to have
our accuser's confession that
America has in the East no
stolen territory and no policy

of the determinate" gun boat character.
Equally sagacious is the gratuitous-
suggestion which this Editor (who
but a few days since sought to
incite this people in his columns
to sedition and revolt against
their own government.) makes
to His Majesty not to confide
in America, that her traditions dating
from the "warning of Washington"
to avoid foreign entanglements" are
entirely in the direction of non-
intervention". That is to say Ame-
rica is to be condemned for-
Treating with Japan without-
engaging in "foreign entanglements"
with Great Britain and her Allies
and is not to be trusted by-
Japan because she would not

intervene by "hostile antagonism
to Russia, in behalf of Japan".
The Editor could not conceal the
fact that the real cause of all
this venom towards America and the
American Minister in Japan
is that the American policy
has been to give to Japan her
commercial rights at least by
Treaty revision while the policy
of Great Britain is as the Edi-
tor frankly says "no concessions
to Japan" - "to conserve the privileges
which we (Great Britain) have
is our best policy, and to do
that is not a question of influence
but of firmness and strength."
In all this I am quite sure
the Editor but echoes the voice of

the British Government and its officials in this country.

Of much less moment is the Editors remarks concerning myself. "He" is loath to believe that the "Cabinet at Washington favors "Mr Bingham's personal policy "of the abolition of extraterritoriality "and the establishment of mixed "Courts" - but he gravely adds "still "when we remember that a secret "and absurd Treaty with Japan and "an objectionable one with Corea, "have both found favor there, - "we are prepared almost for any "surprise that may yet be in store" "So long as the political party - "with which Mr Bingham has "been allied, retains power it is

"probable that he may not be
"disturbed, but should the Demo-
"crats come into office of which
"there appears at length to be a
"probability. Mr Bingham will
"be at once relieved of his appo-
"intment and then we shall see
"what his deliberately calculated
"affability towards the Japanese
will lead to." I need hardly say
that I have no personal policy save
the policy which is approved by my Government.

I have in former dispatches
to your honorable predecessors declared
the foreign policy of the United
States to be equal and exact
justice to all nations and entangling
alliances with none. It would
seem that this Editor has come

to know this only to condemn it.
It is gracious in this oracular Editor
to concede, that I may not be
disturbed by the present administra-
tion, while he solemnly announces
" that upon the hoped for coming into
" office of the Democratic party
" Mr Bingham will be at once
" relieved of his appointment." This
is refreshing coming as it does from
one who speaks with authority
and who represents that class of
British subjects who in our supreme hour of trial proclaimed
with indecent haste the Republic
is dead. I am glad to know that
the Republic still lives and
humbly trust it will live so long
as nations shall be upon the earth

Doubtless it is the cherished hope of this Editor that the Democratic party may come into the control of the American government and along with it the policy of Great Britain, both in America and Japan, dictating to both what may be done and what shall not be done by either within its own domain.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Wm A. Bingham

Enclosure 1 with
No. 1631.

Extract from the
Japan Daily Herald
of the 27th Jan. 1883.

Enclosure with No 1631

Extract from the Japan Daily Herald of the 27th Jan. 1883.

The Japan Daily Herald.

SATURDAY, 27TH JANUARY, 1883.

"American Liberality" and "European Selfishness."

AN article headed "America, Japan, and England," in the last issue of the *Japan Mail*, written with the apparent object of magnifying American influence in Japan, and belittling that of Great Britain, seems to call for comment at our hands. A contrast is drawn between what the writer calls "American affability and liberality," and "European selfishness." General GRANT's "appreciative esteem" for Japan's people and their efforts, is lauded, whilst it is said they meet "with little but cold disdain and unsympathetic imperiousness from English princes, diplomats, and merchants." This divergence of opinion, if it really exists, would be a regrettable circumstance for Japan, and suggests, that caressed, feted, and loaded with presents, as General GRANT was, whilst here, that he was betrayed into forming too favorable an estimate of his entertainers, just as they seemed to have erred in believing that he would be re-elected President of the United States, and, in that capacity, would possess the personal and political power of serving them.

The evidences of American liberality brought forward are, the secret and abortive treaty, which in bad faith with the other Powers, the United States, at the instigation of Mr. BINGHAM, entered into with Japan, and the proposed return of the Shimonoseki indemnity. But if we analyse these exhibitions of friendship upon which so much stress is laid, we shall find them but empty demonstrations, costing practically nothing to the United States. The treaty professes to surrender the re-adjustment of the tariff to the Japanese Government, but this concession was accompanied by a condition which entirely nullified it, for the treaty was not to be operative until the other Powers had consented to a similar abandonment, of which the United States Government must have well known, there was no chance whatever. In point of fact, it was simply befooling and hoodwinking the Japanese by making so nugatory an instrument. But even were such not likely to be the case,—the refusal of the other Powers to make similar compacts,—the present limited extent of American exports to Japan makes the question of what the Japanese duties on imports might be increased to, one of almost complete indifference; kerosene oil being almost the sole import from the United States of commercial consequence, and it is worthy of note, that when the Japanese, in the exercise of the right conceded by America, proposed levying a duty of 30 per cent. upon coal oil, it was very strongly protested against from Washington. However affable it might seem to be on the part of America to recognise, in theory, the abstract right on the part of Japan to control its own tariff, it is very clear from what we have mentioned, it was never intended that it should be practically availed of.

The writer of the article in the *Mail* says "that nothing is wanting to render the American treaty operative, except the consent of other Powers to accept its provisions." But wanting that, to all practical intents and purposes, it might as well never have been executed.

As to the return of a part of the Shimonoseki indemnity, the only portion which America makes any show of parting with, is money belonging to the British treasury, for whatever expenses were incurred by the United States in that affair will be first deducted to the full, and over, before ever a single dollar is paid to Japan.

The re-adjustment of the tariff, in the estimation of the Japanese Government, is altogether inferior and subordinate to the question of exterritoriality. Other nations of the first rank have consented, as Japan has, to bind themselves in commercial engagements, which cannot be abrogated except by mutual consent, and that Japan should find herself in a similar position, can scarcely be regarded as irksome. But what she professes to have at heart, is the abolition of the restraints which exterritoriality imposes. Has American affability, in response to Japan's appeals, betrayed an intention to sever from the other Powers on this subject, and concede what is asked? On this question, America, to the extent of the number of her citizens in Japan, is as much interested as any other nation is. She should be fully alive to the dangers surrounding such a concession, and should resolutely refuse to be a party to the granting of it. We have reason to believe that whenever America's interests are at stake, in common with those of other nations, she exhibits a selfishness as strong as that of Japan itself, or that which European states are charged with. Nothing is cheaper, whether on the part of individuals or of nations, than the expression of sentimental sympathy; and if the Japanese can be bought at so cheap a rate, they will sell themselves a bargain.

It is true that America's representative here expresses himself upon occasion, as personally in favor of the abolition of exterritoriality, and the establishment of mixed Courts, but as yet we are not in possession of any information leading us to regard such an extraordinary declaration as representing aught besides what is understood to be the personal policy of Mr. BINGHAM himself. That gentleman has of course, an object in view, in pursuing a line of conduct so much at variance with that of the more influential of his colleagues, but we are loath to believe, that the Cabinet at Washington is a party to the expression of such an idea, or that, notwithstanding Mr. BINGHAM's favorable dispatches to that end, it will be so ill advised as to countenance such a line of action. Still, when we remember that a secret and absurd treaty with Japan, and an objectionable one with Corea have both found favor there, we are prepared almost for any surprise that may yet be in store. Practically, for the past few years, since Mr. BINGHAM's personal policy became so pronounced as to arrest attention, and to excite surprise and criticism, American interests may be said to have been all but in abeyance. The debt due by the Republican party to Mr. BINGHAM, for party services in his own country, may have been great, but it is a pity, in the interest of America in Japan, that some other and less expensive way could not have been found of rewarding them than that of stationing him here. So long as the political party with which Mr. BINGHAM has been allied, retains power, it is probable, that he may not be disturbed, but should the Democrats come into office, of which there appears at length to be a probability, Mr. BINGHAM will be at once relieved of his appointment, and then we shall see what his deliberately calculated affability towards the Japanese will lead to.

We are told by the *Mail*, with that disregard of veracity which frequently characterises its utterances, that "English obduracy alone stands to-day, between Japan and the recognition of those rights which it is the paramount object of all her aspirations to acquire." But in what respect does the decision which the English Government has come to, differ from that of France, or any of the other Powers with interests here of sufficient importance to warrant them in making a stand against Japanese encroachments on existing treaty rights? In regard to exterritoriality English obduracy is similar to the obduracy of the other Powers, not excepting we trust, that of America itself. The "happy intimacy" of the relations of Japan with the Great Republic, which the *Mail* congratulates her upon, if maintained at other nations' expense, will, we fear, be found by Japan, in the long run, to be a short-sighted procedure, bringing most probably its own punishment with it. In the East, it may with ruth be affirmed, where America has no territory, and scarcely any trade, that she has no policy of a very determinate character. All the traditions of America, dating from the expressed warning of WASHINGTON to avoid foreign entanglements, are entirely in the direction of non-intervention. No matter then however affable America may be, or however plausible her professions of sympathy,—professions which not unfrequently come under the suspicion of being made for scarcely any other reason, than jealousy of other Powers, and with the object of lowering their prestige, or of embarrassing or thwarting their negociations,—when the time of real difficulty shall arise, Japan will find that American amiability or sympathy will not prove of much value. Now this country possesses one particularly aggressive and dangerous neighbour. We will ask the question would ever America place herself in hostile antagonism to Russia on behalf of Japan?

"American policy,"—the policy of exercising what we have shown to be a meaningless and empty affability, we are told is "particularly attractive to Oriental eyes," but it is a species of sugar plum policy, calculated to please children; it is scarcely complimentary to the Japanese to ask us to regard them in the same light.

We were not aware that in this country "English influence is at a palpable discount" as the *Mail*, in its anxiety to exalt Mr. BINGHAM over Sir HARRY PARKES, states. The Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, may "consult the American Minister when in trouble," but that merely tends to prove how little confidence Mr. INOUYE has in himself. Possibly other Ministers, if they held as frequent communion with the Editor of the *Mail*, and chose to take him into their confidence, might tell the same kind of story as Mr. BINGHAM seems to have done, but it is rather a slender sort of foundation upon which to build a theory of the alleged insignificance of British influence. If Ministerial influence or popularity with the Government is to be determined by the exercise of a yielding affability, then that Minister who acts with least firmness in defence of the interests he has been appointed to guard, or who is indifferent to their promotion, may claim to bear away the palm. Had the gentleman lately in charge of the British Legation remained here as long as the present American Minister, as both were, then, so would they have been again equally praised by the *Mail*, and we should have been called upon to divide our admiration between them; British and American influence might then have been quoted as being on a par.

Since stress is laid upon the acquisition of influence with this Government, it may be just as well to inquire into its value, if any. Nothing is clearer than this, that in exchange for a higher tariff and for power over foreigners, Japan has nothing of consequence to give. The opening of additional ports, or of the country itself to trade, would not confer advantages commensurate with the value and dangers of the concessions asked. The possible changes of the future, are not regarded as changes likely to prove beneficial to foreigners, but the reverse. To conserve the privileges we have, is our best policy, and to do that is not a question of influence, but of firmness and strength. The prosaic object of foreign nations in Japan,—buying and selling,—is not a question of influence, but of prices. Japanese dealers would prefer the goods of an unfriendly nation, if good and cheap, to those of a friendly nation, if dear and bad. Hence "British obduracy" does not stand in the way of the sale of her yarns and shirtings, nor does "American affability" place her cotton manufactures in this market. As to political or international considerations, Japan occupies too uninfluential a position in the comity of nations, to make the exercise of her influence a consideration of moment.

As well from international as from monetary and commercial considerations, the legitimate influence and friendship of Great Britain must always be objects of the first importance to Japan. Her Government would be blind indeed if they failed to recognise what we have asserted. It is not so much British obduracy, as British power and influence, wisely exercised, that so largely affects the policy pursued towards this country. The petty intrigues of weak and self-seeking Ministers do no more than delude the Japanese into a belief, that they are about to get their own way, when in fact their chance of being allowed to do so, is as remote as it ever was. Diplomatic condescension is a sure prelude to Japanese disappointment and chagrin. It is better to know at once from a Minister of firm and decided views, what is likely to be conceded, and what is certain to be refused, than to be led by plausible affability, and simulated sympathy, into traversing the wearying and illusive labyrinths of a fool's paradise.

Ack by no & file

Dec. Mail

No 1632.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 14th Feb 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.

Report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce for the year 1882. in relation to the revision of treaties with Japan, and also in relation to the treaty recently negotiated with Corea.

Enclosure.

Extract from the Japan Daily Herald of Feb. 13 1883.

No 1632.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 14th Feb 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my No 1552 dated August 25th 1882 with which I transmitted for your information a copy of a letter addressed to me by Mr Mollison Chairman of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce in relation to our Treaty with Corea, I now beg leave to invite your attention to the enclosed extract from the Report of said

Chamber of Commerce for the year 1882 as published in the Japan Daily Herald of the 13th instant.

You will please note that in this report, it is stated that "to a direct question from Her "Britannic Majesty's Minister "as to whether a Tariff (for Japan) "based on an average of 10 per cent, "with certain exceptions, would "in the opinion of the committee "(of the Chamber) be considered "satisfactory by the foreign mer- "cantile Community, the commit- "tee whilst not failing to point "out the injury to trade in Kero- "sene oil and Sugar likely to arise "from the proposed excessive "duties of 15 per cent and 20 per cent

"respectively expressed itself on the
"general question in a more or less
"guarded manner". A reference to
the protocals for Treaty revision
which I had the honor to transmit
to the Department will show
that the counter Tariff project
reported by Sir Harry S. Parkes.
the British Minister from the
Sub committee on Treaty revision
which was appointed on his own
motion, recommended a duty on
Kerosene our chief staple of export
to Japan, at 15 per cent.

This report of the Chamber
on the Corean Treaty further dec-
lares that in co-operation with
the Hong Kong Chamber of Com-
merce a letter was addressed

to Earl Granville on the 22nd of August last expressing the hope that an opportunity might be afforded the Chamber of stating its views on the Commercial clauses of the Treaty before its final ratification and that permission having been courteously accorded, the result of the Committee's deliberations is shown in a second letter to Earl Granville dated 9th January 1883. the gist of which is the condemnation of the proposed Treaty with Corea.

The report of the Chamber further states that "a letter similar to the first one addressed to Earl Granville was addressed to the Hon. John A. Bingham

"United States Minister at Tokio
"in reference to the proposed Ame-
"rican treaty with Corea but -
"nothing further than a mere
"formal acknowledgment has been
"received". It will always be a
satisfaction to me that my ac-
tion in this behalf received
your approval by the emphatic
words "no notice whatever will
be taken" of the letter of Mr
Mollison President of the Yo-
kohama Chamber of Commerce.

It is to be regretted that
the correspondence in relation
to Treaty revision which in this
publication is said to be annexed
to the report of the Chamber -
is not published with the report.

The general reasons assigned in this report for the condemnation of the Corean Treaty negotiated on behalf of Great Britain by Admiral Willes (which as I have before reported is in substance the same as our own) fail to assign the chief reason for its condemnation, namely, that it prohibits the importation of opium into Corea, a trade which Great Britain forced upon China more than twenty years ago under cover of her guns and has since collected from this nefarious trade by way of export duties paid into her Indian Treasury not less than $600,000,000!

It is not surprising that as I have before advised the Department, officials of Great Britain in Japan in contravention of existing Treaties with this government have attempted both by Deplomatic and Judicial action to force the importation of opium into this Empire in the form of "medicinal opium." Nor is it surprising that I having refused to lend myself to this project and like unjust projects in the past, have been and am still the object of adverse criticism and unjust complaint both publicly by certain British journals in Yokohama and secretly by British agents here and elsewhere,

as certified by my record in your Department as well as in the records of this Legation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Wm. A. Leighton

Enclosure with
No 1632
Extract from the
Japan Daily Herald
of
the 13th of February 1883.

Enclosure with No 1632

Extract from the Japan Daily Herald of the 13th of February 1883.

Chamber of Commerce.

REPORT OF THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, FOR THE YEAR 1882.

TREATY REVISION again figures prominently in the business of the Chamber for the past year, and a perusal of the correspondence annexed to this report will show what has been done by the Committee in connection with this important question.

The attention of members is directed more particularly to the Report of the Special Committee appointed by request of the Foreign Ministers to check the Dutiable Values of Imports as estimated by the Japanese Government, and to the Comparative Table that accompanies the report, which it is hoped may be found interesting, and of some value for future reference.

As having a direct bearing on this subject, it has been deemed advisable also to print along with the foregoing,—Tables showing the average value of the articles of Import mentioned in the Chamber's Circular for the past three and five years respectively, ending with 31st December 1881, as computed from the returns of members.

PROPOSED TARIFF.—It will be noted from the correspondence, that in reply to a direct question from H. B. M.'s Minister, as to whether a tariff based on an average of ten per cent., with certain exceptions, would in the opinion of the Committee be considered satisfactory by the foreign mercantile community, the Committee, whilst not failing to point out the injury to trade in Kerosene Oil and Sugar, likely to arise from the proposed excessive duties of 15 per cent. and 20 per cent. respectively, expressed itself on the general question in a more or less guarded manner, and with a certain amount of reserve, feeling that on such an important point not only should the sense of the Chamber as a body be taken, but the sense of the entire mercantile community.

DRAWBACKS *v.* BONDED WAREHOUSES.—The same feeling animated the Committee in giving its opinion on this subject, and it will be observed that His Excellency Sir Harry Parkes recognised this difficulty in the first instance, and when the matter was again brought forward by him, put the question before the Committee subject to the reserve that it should eventually be considered by the general body of members, when fuller information could be supplied.

It may be well to state here, that no further information connected with Treaty Revision has reached the Committee, but they believe that the conference which was held at Tokio during six months of the past year resulted in an understanding between the Japanese Government and a majority of the Foreign Representatives, that it would be more advantageous to deal separately with the Commercial and Political aspects of Revision.

If that view should be approved by the various Home Governments interested, it would seem to hold out some prospect of a settlement of the former part of the question being arrived at within a reasonable period.

COREAN TREATY.—Acting in co-operation with the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, a letter was addressed to Earl Granville, under cover to His Excellency Sir Harry Parkes, on the 23rd August last, expressing the hope that an opportunity might be afforded the Chamber of stating its views on the Commercial clauses of the proposed Treaty before its final ratification, and the desired permission having been courteously accorded, the result of the Committee's deliberations is shown in a second letter to Earl Granville, under date 9th January, 1883. The gist of this letter is condemnation of the proposed Treaty, as meagre in its details, and wholly unsatisfactory in its provisions, so much so as to offer no inducement whatever for foreign merchants to establish themselves in Corea, or even attempt to do business with that country, in the face of the higher privileges granted to Chinese and Japanese.

A letter similar to the first one to Earl Granville was addressed to to the Hon. Jno. A. Bingham, United States Minister at Tokio, in reference to the proposed American treaty with Corea, but nothing further than a formal acknowledgment has been received.

Appoint

Mr Bartlett
Mr Wang

No 1633.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan Feb. 14th 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.

Mr Bingham renews his recommendation made by him in his No. 1625 of date the 25th Jany last for the appointment of Dr Willis N. Whitney of New Jersey to be Interpreter to the Legation in Japan.

No 1633

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Feb. 14th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my No 1625 of date the 25th ultimo I beg leave to repeat my recommendation therein made that Dr Willis N. Whitney of New Jersey be appointed Interpreter to this Legation in place of Mr J.R. Frazier resigned. Mr Whitney's former residence in this city with his father enabled him to acquire a

knowledge of the Japanese language which he leads writes and speaks. I do not hesitate to say that he is better qualified for the office of Interpreter than any other person whose services we can hope to obtain. He is a Gentleman of excellent character and has been a resident of Newark New Jersey as you stated in your private note to me of the 25th of May last, wherein You commended him and his mother and Sisters who returned with him in December last to this city. I need not say that an Interpreter is absolutely essential to this Legation Mr. Frazier will leave for the

United States in April; it is very desirable that an Interpreter be appointed at an early day.

I have the Honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

File

No 1.

Washington, Feb. 14th 1883.

Mr. Gustavus Goward.
Secretary of Legation at Japan.
to the
Department of State.

Subject.

Receipt of Personal Instructions. Commission, Passport, Letter of Credit, and blank oath of office.

Original letter of Credit signed and filed in Department.

Oath of office Taken and filed in the Department.

No. 1. Washington. Feb. 14th 1883.

Hon. John Davis.

Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge personal instructions as Secretary of Legation at Japan. together with commission and special passport as such officer, letter of credit, and blank oath of office.

The letter of credit I have signed in duplicate and left the original at the Department.

The oath of office I have taken this day and filed at the Department.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Gustavus Goward

Secretary of Legation.

No. 2.

Received Feby 19/83 Hunter

Washington Feb 14th 1883.

Mr. Gustavus Govard.
Secretary of Legation.
to The Department of State.

Subject.

Acknowledgement of the Secretary's instructions.
Intentions and endeavors to comply.
Regrets owing to the shortness of notice and severe indisposition and incompleteness of arrangements in not being able to take the outgoing Steamer.
Intention to proceed at the earliest practicable moment with no unnecessary delay.

Washington, Feb. 14th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In acknowledging the receipt of your instructions of date the 10th instant, wherein it is requested that I proceed to my post without unnecessary delay I have to say that the instructions will be complied with. At the same time I am obliged to regret that owing to the shortness of the notice and a severe indisposition confining me to the house, notwithstanding my endeavors, I shall be unable to take the steamer which leaves from San Francisco on the 22nd instant.

This impossibility is especially to be regretted by myself as it was a steamer, the City of Tokio, upon which I desired to be a passenger.

A few days earlier notice would have enabled me to have completed my arrangements which were necessarily preliminary to my departure from the country

for

for any length of time.

I should also inform the Depart-
-ment that I had calculated upon the
forty days allowed by the regulations and
instructions, and was wholly unprepared
to make the journey direct barring acci-
-dents and delays in the barely possible twenty-
eight days as would have been the case.

I have to reiterate my intentions of
obeying the instructions of departure
and to say that I will leave Washington
at the earliest practicable moment in
furtherance of the expressed commands.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
Gustavus Goward.
Secretary of Legation.

No 1634 Jacket. Offd. Affairs Mch 22. 1883. Crider

DEPARTMENT OF STATE MAR 16 1883 RECEIVED

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 15th Feb. 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Letter and conversation of Mr George W. Hill as published in the Japan Gazette in relation to a new code of laws in Japan and new Courts of Justice to be introduced by the United States.

No 1634

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 15th Feb. 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I beg leave to enclose for your information two publications which appeared in the Japan Gazette at Yokohama on the 28th of December last namely: a letter addressed to the Editor by Mr George Wallace Hill dated 27th November 1882. and an article in the same paper copied from the San Francisco Chronicle of date the

25th November purporting to be a statement of conversational remarks made by Mr Hill to a reporter of the latter Journal in San Francisco upon Mr Hill's arrival there <u>en route</u> to Washington

It is to be noticed that Mr Hill in his letter says that the proposed additional legislation in the interest of Americans in China and Japan has brought him to the United States, but that the report of his conversation in the Chronicle as to Consul General van Buren is grossly inaccurate and adds that it was generally rumored that Mr van Burens visit to the United States had for its object the latters

appointment as judge in the proposed Courts in the East, but "he (Hill) did not suppose or "believe that he (General Van Buren) "would be likely to be named "for the place if the Court be "erected and that he (Hill) thought "the government would select for "such an appointment a man "of more profound legal training "and experience."

The most interesting part of Mr Hills' statement to the reporter which remains uncontradicted and unquestioned by his letter to the Gazette is that the Bill for the amendment of our existing laws as to carry into effect our Treaties with Japan and

and China was drawn by himself and that General Van Buren - "professed to be in favor of the "bill, and is working to effect "its passage" - and also that he (Hill) has a letter from him (General Van Buren) in which he makes arguments for it and which he asked me (Hill) to forward among my (his) papers to the State Department - and that he (Hill) did enclose Mr Van Buren's views in a letter to the State Department. All this is interesting reading in the light of the fact that so far as I am - advised before either General Van Buren or Mr Hill concerned themselves about changing

our existing laws in the premises as now proposed, the case of John-Martin Ross charged with the murder of an American officer on board of an American merchant Ship when at anchor in the habor of Yokohama was instituted before Mr Consul General Van Buren, Mr Hill appearing as Counsel for the prisoner and both questioning on the trial, the validity of our existing laws. Mr Hill declaring the law unconstitutional as there was neither grand nor petit jury provided for and Mr Van Buren doubting his jurisdiction over the prisoner because of his nativity. The Consul General

following my instructions to him over ruled Mr Hills motions to dismiss, and the case proceeded to judgment as my dispatches to the Department show. Mr Hill also came before me as my dispatches show on behalf of James O. Neil upon a petition for Habeas Corpus. My action in this and also in Ross's case was approved by the Department. Further in this connection I ask your attention to the fact that Mr Hill in his conversation with the Chronicle reporter as shown by the enclosed says that the Consular jurisdiction over citizens of the United States in Eastern countries <u>especially in Japan</u>, has attracted attention principally in the cases of John Martin (Ross) and James O. Neil.

There is one other fact which Mr Hill failed to disclose, that is that on the 15th of March 1881 Mr Consul General Van Buren, at the instance of Mr Hill and some English lawyers who practise in the United States Consular General Court at Yokohama, addressed a note to me (a copy of which I had the honor to transmit to the Department with my No 1273 of date March 26th 1881) requesting me to amend the Consular Court Regulations so as to allow the United States Consular Courts in Japan to tax as costs in favor of the prevailing party and against the unsuccessful party Counsel fees, which I

declined to do with the approval of your honorable predecessor (Mr Blaine) who said in his Instruction No 585 of May 10th 1881. that "your (my) course is approved" and that the rule proposed, is believed in itself to be contrary to the spirit of American jurisprudence." A perusal of Mr. Van Burens dispatch enclosed with my No. 1273. will show that he had been in the habit of allowing counsel fees as costs to the successful party, and also that as there was uncertainty as to the authority for this, the different practising lawyers in Yokohama had submitted to him (the Consul General) a scale of charges

which they derived to have adopted in his Court, - this he declined but suggested that a scale of charges should be agreed on if possible by myself and the Consuls of the United States in Japan. It is also to be noted that in his letter to me Mr Van Buren says that the provisions of our Consular Court Regulations are taken from the New York and California Codes of practice but "the further provision of those Codes defining the costs to be allowed in defferent actions are entirely omitted from our Consular Court Regulations." It is very significant that Mr Hill in his reported conversation said "I as well as

"nearly every body in Japan am
"in favor of adopting the Code
"of the State of California."

I am inclined to think he chiefly favors the California Code for the reason as reported to me that in his opinion it allows Counsel fees to be taxed as costs against the unsuccessful parties.

The bill which Mr Hill says he drafted and sent to Senator Edmunds does not so far as I am advised obviate the alleged unconstitutional provisions of our existing laws as stated by Mr Hill in the cases of Ross and O'Neil - as it provides for neither a grand nor trial jury as contemplated by the constitution

in Criminal Cases justiceable in the Courts of the United States within the States and Judicial Districts thereof. I have yet to learn that in any civil case in Japan, there has been a failure of Justice in any of our Consular Courts by reason of any want of a sufficient remedy under our existing laws and regulations. If there has been a failure of justice in any such case the fault has not been in the law, but the Consul. Give a right of appeal or review in all criminal cases of the grade of felony tried by United States Counsel or Minister in Japan, under our present Statutes and

also in all civil cases where the amount involved exceeds say $1000., to the United States Circuit Court for the District of California, I venture to say that there will be no room for compliment in the future.

There are not I am sure two hundred citizens of the United States in Japan who take any concern about the question of a new law as proposed by Mr Hill and Consul General Van Buren. It seems to me that the chief concern of Mr Van Buren and Mr Hill in this proposed reform of the law, is the Judgeship and the Counsel fees! I think I have answered

all their alleged Constitutional
objections to the Statute of 1860
in my several dispatches in the
cases of Ross and Dinkelle in
which it gives me much plea-
sure to note that I have been
sustained by Mr Evarts, Mr
Blaine, and yourself, in your
letter to the Senate.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant.
Jno A Singleton

Enclosure with
No 1634

Extract from
the
Japan Gazette
of the
28th of December 1882.

Enclosure with No 1634.

Extract from the Japan Gazette of the 28th December 1882.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[*Correspondents have free access to these columns, but we distinctly disclaim any identity with their sentiments and opinions on the matters treated.*]

MR. HILL, IN CORRECTION OF THE "S. F. CHRONICLE"

To the editor of the *Japan Gazette*.

SIR:—While at San Francisco on my journey to Washington a reporter connected with the *Chronicle* newspaper desired me to give him information on the subject of the proposed additional legislation in the interest of Americans in China and Japan which has brought me to the United States; and the newspaper named published on November 25th what purported to be an account of what was said by me. That account was grossly inaccurate and contained matter of pure invention. Being quite willing to speak on the subject named in which I have been so closely interested, I gave full explanations as to what it is desired to effect, and thus far, howbeit it is published in a bungling form, the matter is fairly accurate. Then follows, however, an account of things said by me of the Consul-General of the United States which is so very far from what occurred as to justify explanation. I thought the interviewer very persistent in the effort to extract from me some expression as to the administration of General Van Buren and he interspersed my words with remarks of his own which he appears to have come to imagine were mine. Being asked whether General Van Buren was on a mission to obtain an appointment in connection with the proposed courts in the East, I said that I knew nothing of his purpose from himself, but that it was generally rumoured that he had such a purpose. I said that I believed the General to be ambitious of a more distinguished place than he now holds, and that he may very likely and very properly aspire to such a place; but that I did not suppose or believe that he would be likely to be named for the place, even if the court be erected; and that I thought the government would select for such an appointment a man of more profound legal training and experience. The above, and the statement that the General was not the originator of the movement, but had been friendly to it is all there was upon which to build this superstruction, somewhat abusive of General Van Buren, inserted in the published article under the heading "Van Buren's Mission." The expressions about moving heaven and earth to secure the place—that he is no fit man for the place—that such an idea is absurd on its face—that General Van Buren is only a politician, and has but a smattering of law—that he is trying to steal my thunder—are not mine, and nothing in that tone or spirit was said by me. The most severe expression as to General Van Buren used by me was the opinion that he is inclined to obstinacy in his views and opinions, and is one in which many will probably concur. The proverb of making a purse out of a sow's ear was used by me as a figure to express the difficulty of an even and just administration of the law in China and Japan as that law now exists, and the declaration of a purpose by me to oppose General Van Buren's appointment to any place or to prevent it has been invented without a shred of suggestion as a basis, and presupposes an assumption on my part of a measure of influence and power to which I make no claim at all. The whole of the matter in respect of General Van Buren was aside from the subject of the interview, and as published is an injustice to General Van Buren and certainly a greater one to myself, and I denounce the portion I have indicated as nearly pure invention.

Respectfully,

G. W. HILL,

ARMIJO HOUSE,

New Albuquerque, N.M., 27th Nov., 1882.

(*San Francisco Chronicle* Nov. 25th, 1882.)

CONSULAR JURISDICTION.

THE STATUS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS IN JAPAN.

The subject of consular jurisdiction over citizens of the United States residing in Eastern countries, and especially Japan, has from time to time attracted considerable attention and comment, principally in the cases of John Martin, confined in the Albany (N. Y.) penitentiary, and James O'Neil, in prison at Yokohama, under life sentence, but sent to San Quentin, where he was pardoned by President Arthur. For some time strenuous efforts have been made by the American residents of Japan to have Congress pass a law governing such cases and giving them the much-needed relief, and for this purpose Consul-General Van Buren came to this country on leave of absence. Another prime mover in this cause, George Wallace Hill, arrived in this city Thursday on his way from Washington.

To a Chronicle reporter Mr. Hill gave his views on the subject. He said: "There are within the Empire of Japan citizens of the United States to the number of about six hundred who, with their families, have become residents of the country, and who pursue their vocations under the treaty entered into between the United States and Japan, of July 29, 1850 There are besides these, at all times, a considerable number of transient visitors and seamen at open ports, who, while within the empire are subject to the like authority, and also enjoy the like exemptions and privileges as do permanent residents.

"These rights and privileges are recited in the treaty, in Article III; while Article V. stipulates for the administration of American law by the American Consular Court, over and among Americans It says:

"Americans committing offenses against Japanese shall be tried in American Consular Courts, and when found guilty shall be punished according to American law. The Consular Court shall be open to Japanese creditors to enable them to recover just claims against American citizens.

THE LAW INADEQUATE.

"Now this is very defective. American law is the law of the United States, yet this law covers but few cases, comparatively speaking. The real laws for the government of the people are enacted by the various State Legislatures. We have no such laws for our guidance, and it consequently devolves upon the Consuls to exercise judicial functions without restraint of Territorial or State laws or precedent. In this way great wrongs are sometimes committed, perhaps not through intention to do wrong, though even that is often the case. Then there is no redress. The provisions of the treaty being, therefore, in themselves meager and inadequate, either as a guide to the Consular Courts in the administration of law or as a rule of conduct among Americans in the empire, Congress on two occasions enacted laws to remedy this evil, among other things extending to Americans coming to Japan the laws of the United States and also the common law and the law of equity and admiralty. By the provisions of this law the Minister of the United States is authorized to supply such defects and deficiencies as might still remain to be supplied by decrees and regulations which should have the force of law. Accordingly, the former Minister to Japan, Charles E. De Long, prepared certain rules and regulations for the conduct of proceedings in the Consular Courts of the United States. These have, however, since been amended and supplemented in one or two particulars. Certain existing rules and regulations of the Japanese authority of a police character, as a guide and rule of conduct for Americans in matters such as shooting and hunting, procuring of passports, quarantine, etc., were also proclaimed by the Minister. This is all the written law which has been provided for and made to apply to Americans in Japan. You can see, therefore, how few cases can be properly disposed of under the written laws, and how tremendous the power of the Consular Courts becomes. The body of the written law is quite deficient in adequate provision for the greater portion of the staple and ordinary concerns of civil life, which are not within the appropriate and ordinary scope of Federal legislation. The only other rules or guidance extended to our Consular Courts are the common law and the law of equity and admiralty. These are likewise inadequate to the requirements and necessities of Americans there, the exigencies of their business and the common pursuits of life, as, in alike manner, they would be found within the United States. In each of our States the common law has been very largely modified and supplemented by statute legislation in compliance with liberal and progressive theories of law and government, but in no degree has the law been hampered or supplemented by legislation for Americans in Japan. For us there is no statute of fraud; there is no insolvency legislation for the benefit of either the failing debtor or his creditor; imprisonment for debt has not been abolished; the disabilities of married women at the common law have remained unaltered; we have no statute of limitation, and none providing for conditional bill of sale or chattel mortgages. In many other respects investigation would show how unfavorable is the legal status of a citizen of the United States residing in Japan compared with that held by him before he removed from the States. In China the American residents labor under the same difficulties."

REMEDYING THE EVIL.

"How can this be rectified?"

"I devoted a great deal of thought and attention to the subject of remedying the evil, and drafted a bill which will cover all exigencies which I sent to Senator Edmunds. It was finally sent to the State Department, where Bancroft Davis drew up a new bill, embodying my suggestions. It is now my object to go before Congress and urge upon it the necessity of a change. What we want is a code of law similar in character to and embracing the like liberal and enlightened provisions as characterized those of the several States of the Union. I as well as nearly everybody in Japan, am in favor of adopting the codes of the State of California, as they are appropriate to remedy the evils we labor under and as they are suitable to the requirements of Americans in Japan and China. The changes necessary to make the law applicable to the different conditions and to the peculiar machinery existing in Japan for its enforcement could be effected without taking up the time and attention of Congress, as, after all, we are but a few hundred, while to frame laws especially for us would take much time and thought."

VAN BUREN'S MISSION.

"What is Mr. Van Buren's mission to this country?"

"He came here on a leave of absence, but what his object is I cannot say, as he did not take me into his confidence. He professed, however, to be in favor of the bill drawn up by me, and is working, I am inclined to think, to effect its passage."

"Has he any ambition to hold a Judgeship which will be provided for in the prospective law?"

As to that I cannot say. I have been told that that was the real object of his visit. Mr. Van Buren is an ambitious man, and no doubt he will move heaven and earth to get this appointment, but he is no fit man for it. The idea of his filling a judicial position of such magnitude is absurd on the face of it. But he wants a higher and more lasting place than he has now, and the Judgeship takes his eye. You know the old saying that you cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear. Van Buren is a very clever follow, as that term is applied now, and has made a good many friends. But after all, he is only a politician, even if he has powerful friends to back him. He has but a slight smattering of law, and his obstinacy when you touch upon an opinion he has formed is something marvelous. He will not, he shall not receive this appointment if I know what I am talking about."

"You say he professes to be in favor of the bill drawn by you. Is he not in favor of it?"

"Well, I suppose he is. Here I have a letter from him in which he makes arguments for it and which he asked me to forward among my papers to the State Department, he being debarred from expressing his views, but in this way he tried to get around it. I did inclose his views in a letter of mine to the State Department. The long and short of the matter is that he is trying to steal away my thunder. He wants to father the bill and get the credit for it, but I told him I would be there, and there I'll be to see the birth of my child. If there is to be any credit out of the bill I want it, and will have nobody stepping in and taking it away from me."

Col Hodgen
Mr Bing

No. 1635

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei, Japan, Feb 16. 1883.

Mr. Bingham
to the
Hon. Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr. Bingham transmits in accordance with Instruction No 705 receipts and certificates for the items of voucher No 4. forwarded with his account for salary & contingent expenses for the 3rd quarter 1882.

Enclosures
Sundry receipts & certificates duly marked.

No. 1635.

United States Legation,
Tokei, Japan Feb 16, 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir:

In accordance with Instruction No. 705 I have the honor to enclose herewith receipts in duplicate, and also the certificate of Mr. Frazier Interpreter and acting Secretary, for the several items of voucher No. 4. forwarded with my account for Salary and contingent expenses for the 3d quarter of 1882 which was made out and transmitted with my despatch No. 1574 on

the 4th of October last.

You will please observe that for the 1st and 3d items (of $11.57 and $15.06 respectively) in said voucher No. 4, I enclose duplicate certificates of Mr. S. R. Frazier who made out the account from a memorandum remaining in this office of Mr. Stevens late Secretary who left Sept. 26th 1882 for the United States, to the correction of which I gave my approval by signing the abstract of said account enclosed with my No. 1574.

The 2d item of said voucher No. 4 is for telegrams to the Department and to Mr. Young Minister to China for which I have obtained a few days since from the Government-telegraph Office receipts, duplicates of which

I herewith enclose, marked respectively A. B. C. & D. a reference to which will show that the two telegrams were sent on the 14th and 17th of August last, the total charge for which is $57.48 Mexicans, not Mex.$60.42 as shown by Mr. Stevens's memorandum a copy of which memorandum is also herewith, marked E. This error of $2.94 Mexicans will be corrected in my account for the current quarter by setting the same to the credit of the Government.

The 4th item in said voucher 4 is for printed translation of Penal Code purchased for Legation 6th April last. and for which I enclose duplicate receipts of Messrs Kelly and Co. marked F.E. calling for $3.15 Mexicans equal to

$2.83. U. S. Gold.

The 5th item of voucher 4 is for binding five volumes of the Official dispatches to this Legation amounting to $6.94 for which I enclose herewith duplicate receipt of the binder (Chong-sing) marked. G. for $7.50 Mexicans equal to $6.94 U. S. Gold.

The certificate (marked H.) by Mr. Frazier acting Secretary since the 26 of September last, is given under Section 39 of Consular Instructions and in accordance with my uniform practice when the Secretary was here, it being impossible to obtain separate receipts for each sum carried into the 1st and 3d items of voucher 4. I beg leave to say that the usual charges for mail Messengers per quarter is $9.00. See my account

for the 2d and 4th quarters of the year 1882;
but in August last being with my family
in the mountains sixty miles distant,
additional expenses were incurred
for six telegrams on official business
(a memorandum of which I have) sent
thither by Mr. Frazier, and also for mail
messengers who carried from Tokio to
my place of sojourn (Tonozawa)
separately two official mails amounting
in the equivalent of U.S. Gold to $6.06 additional
to the ordinary expenses of $9.00 per quarter.)

Hoping that the foregoing may be
satisfactory

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Geo. A. Stringham

No 1636

United States Legation

Tokei, Japan, Feb 16 1883

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1883
RECEIVED

Mr. Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr. Bingham transmits certified voucher No. 5 in duplicate explanatory of his account for contingent Expenses for the 4th quarter of the year 1882 which account he enclosed with his No. 1616. of date Jan 11 1883.

Enclosure

1 Certified voucher No. 5 in duplicate.

No. 1636.

United States Legation,
Tokei, Japan, Feb. 15th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State, Washington.

Sir:

Referring to my account for salary and contingent expenses for the quarter ending the 31st of December last which I had the honor to transmit with my No. 1616 dated the 11th of January last I note that Mr. Frazier Interpreter and acting Secretary to this Legation failed to file a certified voucher No. 5: with the abstract for contingent

Mr. Bingham.

No 1637.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 16th Feb 1883.

Mr. Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Rescue of South Pacific islanders at sea by the American Ship Northern Light Captain J. Sloum Commanding

Enclosure

Extract from the Japan Gazette of January 16 1883

Expenses enclosed with said account.

Herewith I beg leave to transmit
certified voucher No. 5 in duplicate
which I respectfully request may be
attached to and made part of the
said abstract of contingent expenses
for said 4th quarter of the year 1882.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Wm. A. Pinkham

Mr. Bingham.

No 1637.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 16th Feb 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Rescue of South Pacific islanders at sea by the American Ship Northern Light Captain J. Slocum commanding

Enclosure

Extract from the Japan Gazette of January 16 1883

No 1637.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 16th Feb. 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I take pleasure in recording the humane action of Captain J. Slocum Commanding the American Merchantman Northern Light which sailed from New York August 2nd 1882. and arrived in Yokohama January 15th 1883. The enclosed statement of Captain Slocum published in the Japan Gazette of the 16th ultimo shows that

on the 10th of December last the Northern Light picked up five (5) persons natives of Abimama island of the Gilbert Group South Pacific, about Six hundred miles distant from Abimama drifting in an open boat and almost famished. These people having been safely brought to Yokohama were kindly cared for by the American and English people residing there and here who contributed liberally to provide them clothing, food and shelter and to send them to ~~—~~ Honolulu whence they can be speedily transferred to their homes by the Missionary Ship which frequents

visits the Gilbert islands.
I also note with pleasure that the
American mail Steamer
gave them free passage to San
Francisco for which port
they sailed on the 25th ultimo.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Wm. A. Pierpoint

Enclosure 1 with —
No 1637.
Extract from the
Japan Gazette
of the
January 16th 1883.

Enclosure with No 1637.

Extract from the Japan Gazette of the 16th January 1883.

THE following interesting communication has been forwarded to us by Captain Slocum, of the American ship *Northern Light*.

This date (15th January) closes our somewhat eventful voyage. We have sailed over 20,000 miles and experienced a part of two winters and two summers. One death occurred among the crew, and the somewhat unusual circumstance of a birth is an event worthy of passing notice. Be not startled at the news. It did not occur in our family. In a boat, far at sea, we picked up a woman who, after a few days on board our ship, gave birth to a child. The little stranger did not stay with us, which is not surprising considering the exceeding great hardships the mother had passed through.

It seems that, about the end of October last, twelve natives of Abimama island, (Gilbert Group) left for an adjacent island of the same group. Overtaken by a storm and driven to leeward of their archipelago, they continued to be drifted about from north to south and east or west, at the scant mercy of a changing monsoon, till Sunday, the 10th of December, when the *Northern Light* picked up the surviving five about 600 miles from their island home. Seven of their number had in this time perished, the first to succumb being a woman. The supply of food the unfortunate waifs were possessed of was limited to a small quantity of dry, pulverized banana; and their stock of water could not have exceeded more than six gallons as their utensils would not have held more. A few bottles of cocoanut oil completed their stock of provisions.

Speaking of these people as natives of a south sea island, I think would not convey to the bulk of the christian world a proper conception of the class of people, a few of whom we had been fortunate enough to rescue from inconceivable horrors.

A more devout band of christians, I never met. When first hauled out of their cheerless cockleshell, more dead than alive, and placed safely on board our comfortable ship, a man who appeared to be a leader, gave thanks to the Almighty with becoming reverence. They then fell on the deck in token of submission to their friends from the white man's world, of which they knew so little.

Brandy and other stimulants were administered; warm tea seemed to agree very well with one or two who refused brandy on the plea that they were christians. They all smoked, however, and for the first time in my life, I thought that possibly there might be some virtue in tobacco. When the woman, poor thing, had finished her light meal and smoked a few whiffs from a pipe, she reached out her hand for our little Garfield, beckoned him to come, but before he could go to her she was away in the land of visions, dreaming probably of being ceaselessly tossed on the remorseless sea, without hope other than her hope in heaven, among the dead and the dying waiting only for death to end her own sufferings. The remainder soon followed the example of the woman, and on waking they seemed much bewildered, looked around the ship then aloft at the cloud of white canvas. Their own craft had in the mean time been thoroughly cleaned, propped upright, a tent-like roof made over her; all their little trinkets and scanty clothing washed and spread out to dry in a tropical sun, which for the two days previous had been darkened by tempest and rain, which made their condition hapless indeed.

"Allah is great!" would have exclaimed the famous Sindbad. Whaggie, the youngest of the three young men, now addressed me in very good English "Captain where ship bound?" I informed from that we were bound for Japan. "Ship no stop Abimama?" To this query I replied it was possible we might touch at this island if winds prevailed from the west; and if we had easterly winds we should touch at Ponipete; in any event they should be cared for as well as circumstances would permit. "Captain" said Whaggie, "I thank you."

Not one on board our ship, I am sure, but would render the unfortunates any assistance which lay in their power, thinking of the day perhaps that might sometime come when they would be glad of merciful treatment themselves. For my own part I had but to go back a short way in my career to remember being succoured by islanders of less pretentions to christianity than many who would not do as much; and it seemed as if I heard the voice of these simple people continually saying "Show us the mercy, that we to others show."

The change in their fortune soon began to tell on these waifs of the sea, three of whom were young men whose physique and muscular form could not by matched by any three men among our crew. The fourth was an elderly man, the husband of the surviving woman, and a brighter eye than twinkles in his old head it would be hard to find. It was he who refused brandy, repeating his only word of English "me missionary," pointing at himself and then upwards, and we readily comprehended his meaning. The poor old fellow seemed quite reconciled in the belief that his time was about up when we were removing him into regular quarters along with the rest. Whaggie looked at him and shook his head saying, "tabboo!" We laughed them out of this idea and told them that among "howrie" missionaries there was no "tabboo." The old man did not at first place much faith in what I said, but later on we became great friends. I never visited their quarters but he asked me by signs and gestures to sit down, invariably, too, alongside of his wife.

What man, could ask for greater mark of confidence? Many a worse looking woman too, might be found; indeed her graceful figure, notwithstanding her middle age, might be envied by many a "howrie" belle.

Poor thing, it was not amiss either that a white sister was at hand who could extend a needful help, in her critical moment. I fully expected when she came round to have her pay the same compliments to my good wife that her husband had heaped upon me; but she did not, for what reason I know not, except that women are possibly more inclined to jealousy than men are.

About a week on board and prospects looked like landing our protegés on their own island. We reached within 45 miles, and I fully expected to make the land early next morning. On learning this the islanders set to rejoicing. I came on deck, as is my custom in the middle watch, and found three young men, arm in arm, walking the decks, singing psalms. Our disappointment next day was great when we found, by observations, that we had struck the equatorial current, and had been set far to the westward. With a light easterly wind it was not practicable to pursue the course longer. The disappointment to them must have been very great: I felt conscience smitten for having held out such high expectations, but it really looked like a sure thing to me at the time.

Thence we shaped a course for Ebon island which also lay in our track. We made it at night—a dark boisterous night—and no time to be hovering about coral reefs in a heavy ship, so from this we took our departure for Baring island expecting to sight it early next day. We sailed fairly over the sea next day, but found no island. Our chronometers having been verified the truth of the ship's position was confirmed from Ebon island. From where Baring island was supposed to be we now shaped our course for Ponnipete and sailed 15 miles when the masthead lookout hailed "land ho! nearly ahead." This we made out to be Baring island, thirty miles to the west of its assigned position on the charts. There again is an adventure for us that seldom may happen. Even in most uncivilized parts of the world a pretty thorough knowledge of existing rocks and other dangers has been gained by untiring surveys.

Our island friends were in doubt if they would be kindly received by the inhabitants of this island; they were in doubt of its being inhabited by others than cannibals; and as night and stormy weather were again upon us, communication with the shore was cut off.

I did not feel justified in simply giving them provisions and sending them off in their boat to an almost unknown island and perhaps extremely unkind people. They were evidently alarmed at the idea of being thus turned off, and I considered I had no more right to turn them adrift than I would have with people of any other nation, so throwing on our hospitality.

North-east trades now fairly opened out on us and and my mind was soon made up. Calling our visitors to me I acquainted them with what I thought best for all concerned. "Taiban" (Japan) was the word, and I assure you their faces at once brightened up and a load was taken off my mind.

Next morning as our ship fairly danced along toward Japan, Whaggie asked if I thought they should ever again see Abimama. I looked at their situation now in a new light, and determined that they shall see Abimama and friends again if my interest can bring this about. I made light of their fears and told them as best I could that one of our many war ships cruising the ocean would very likely carry them back, boat and all. Whaggie intimated that the King of Abimama would be pleased enough to "pay money, give plenty cobre," &c. Perhaps he would knight one into the bargain, who knows? My opportunity was probably lost by being met with foul currents; otherwise I might now be known as Sir P. G. or Lord Bukiroro instead of plain Pil Garlic; or better still, perhaps, as "Governor of an island."

As for goods or money payment we could not entertain a thought of it. For, was it not so with Sindbad the sailor when he proffered goods to the owner of the ship instrumental in his escape from the mountain?

Was he not told:—"We take nothing from any one and when we behold a shipwrecked person on the shore of the sea or on an island (or in a boat) we take him with us, and feed him and give him drink, and if he be naked, we clothe him, and when we arrive at the port of safety we give him something of our property as a present, and act towards him with kindness and favour, for the sake of God, whose name be exalted," which sentiment I think is worth being kept in mind.

I would fain add, that "the inhabitants of the port of safety to which the ship arrives also act kindly toward him." It is with us right that we should not be out-done by an Arab.

We arrived safely in Yokohama on the 15th January, with our strange passengers on board. What shall we do with them?

No 1638.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR
2
1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 6th March 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of Instructions numbered 707. 708 and 709. and also of Circular Instruction dated January 25th 1883. in relation to Boston Exhibition

No 1638.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 6th March 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Instructions numbered respectively 707. 708 and 709. and also the receipt of Department Circular dated the 25th of January last in relation to "an Exhibition of Foreign Manufacturing, artistic and industrial productions, which it is proposed to hold in Boston to open on the 1st September 1883. and to continue

"open not less than three months."

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Wm A Finlayson

File

W King

No 1639.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 6th March 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Transmission of Department Circular in relation to the proposed Exhibition in Boston to the Japanese Foreign Office.

Enclosure

1. Mr. Bingham to Mr. Inouye dated March 3, 1883.

No 1639.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 6th March 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

Referring to Department Circular of date the 25th of January last in relation to the proposed exhibition in Boston of foreign productions on the 1st of September next, — I beg leave to say that the copies of the Circular therein mentioned as having been transmitted therewith (being the Circular of the Foreign Exhibition Association of Boston) were not received by me.

In accordance with your Instruction I addressed a note to His Excellency Mr Inouye on yesterday

/1 (a copy of which (No 1952) is enclosed) transmitting a copy of said Circular Instruction and inviting has attention to the proposed exhibition and to the fact that while our government did not consider itself authorized to extend a formal invitation to foreign States to participate in the proposed Exhibition, it deemed it proper to testify its interest therein by bringing the same to the notice of foreign States, to the end that if it be their pleasure they may participate in the Exhibition.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Mr A. Bingham

Enclosure (1.)
with No 1639.

Copy

No 1952

United States Legation

Tokei Japan March 5th 1883.

His Excellency

Inouye Kaoru

His Imperial Japanese Majesty's

Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Sir:

In accordance with Instructions from my government I have the honor to enclose for your information a copy of a circular letter addressed to me by the Honorable the Secretary of State in relation to an Exhibition of foreign Manufacturing artistic and industrial productions which it is proposed to hold in Boston, Massachusetts for the period of three (3) months commencing on the 1st of

September 1883.

You will please observe that this Exhibition is under the sanction of the State officials of Massachusetts and favored by an act of the Congress of the United States which provides that all goods intended to be displayed at the exhibition will be admitted to remain in bond free of duty while an exhibition.

While the Government of the United States does not consider itself authorized to formally invite foreign powers to participate in this exhibition it has deemed it proper to testify its interest therein to the extent of bringing the same to the notice of the foreign States holding friendly relations with the United

States to the end that if it be their pleasure they may participate in the Exhibition.

I regret that the circular issued by the Foreign Exhibition Association of Boston to which reference is made in the enclosed Instruction has not yet reached me. Should the circular of the Association come to hand I will take pleasure in transmitting the same to you.

I beg leave to renew to your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

Signed. Rev. A. Burlingame

No 1670. ✓ acted. dft'g. April. 1883. Cn. Jdr.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE APR 2 1883 RECEIVED

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 6th March 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr. Inouye notified by Mr. Bingham that the United States consents to the proposal of the Japanese Government for the revision of the existing Treaties.

Enclosure

1 Mr Bingham to Mr. Inouye, dated Feb 26, 1883

No 1640

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 6th March 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acquaint you that pursuant to Instruction No. 707 of date the 16th of January last. I addressed to Mr Inouye His Imperial Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs a note dated the 27th ultimo a copy of which is herewith No 1950 in which I notified him that the United States consents to the proposal of the Japanese government for

"the revision of the existing Treaties
"on the conditions proposed by Japan
"as set forth in my No 1568."
The Minister verbally expressed himself
as exceedingly gratified with this
additional evidence of the good will
of the United States towards Japan
and signified that it was his pur-
pose to bring the same to the notice
of the Emperor and of the Imperial
Council.

You will please observe that
in my note I informed the Minister
that in my number 1568 referred
to in your Instruction I had called
attention to the several Protocals
numbered 1 to 16 both inclusive all
of which I had transmitted to you
and that I had especially invited

your attention to the entire scheme of revision as shown in the Ministers' resumé. Protocal 16. p. p. 12-17 English text.

I am not without hope that one or more of the European States will speedily follow the example of our government in the premises, but whether they do or not, I remain of the opinion heretofore expressed in answer to certain interrogatories of your honorable predecessor (Mr Fish) that it is competent for the United States to conclude a general revision of all our existing Treaties with Japan on special conditions without the consent or concurrence of any of the European States and

that none of them could avail themselves of the new privileges secured by such revision without a strict compliance on their part with all the conditions specified and in consideration of which such revision granting new concessions should have been made. For a full discussion of these propositions, I respectfully refer you to my No. 392. dated May 8th 1876.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Wm. A. Bringhurst

Enclosure (1.)
with No 1640.

No 1950

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Feby 26th 1883.

His Excellency

Inouye Kaoru

His Imperial Japanese Majesty's

Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Sir:

It gives me much pleasure to acquaint You that by the Instruction of the Honorable the Secretary of State of date the 16th ultimo, I am directed to "notify your Excellency that the United States consents to the proposal of the Japanese government for the revision of the existing Treaties on the conditions

"proposed by Japan as setforth in
"your (my) No 1568."

It is proper that I should further inform you that in my No 1568 I called special attention to all the Protocols from 1 to 16 inclosed and transmitted by me and especially to the entire scheme for revision of the existing Treaties as shown in your several statements in all the Protocols citing particularly your resumé (Protocol 16 p.p. 12-17 inclosive English text) and also to the marginal notes thereto attached by you.

That the position maintained by me in the conference might not be overlooked by my goven

-ment. I called attention in my No 1568 to my remarks in Protocol 15 p. p 29.30- English text and quoted therefrom the following: that "in my opinion the propositions of this (the Japanese) Government in their entirety as presented by Mr Inouye were so reasonable and just it seemed to me they should command the approval of every civilized state on the Globe."

Hoping that some or all of the other Treaty powers may follow the good example of my Government and speedily notify His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government of their consent to revise your existing Treaties with them on

the conditions proposed by you in conference in their entirety. I beg leave to renew to your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

Signed Jno. A. Rawlins

No 1641.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR
2
1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 6th March 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject

Receipt of two copies of the Statutes of the United States: also vols. I. & II. of the Official Register of the United States for 1881.

No 1641

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 6th March 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the Statutes of the United States passed at the third (3rd) Session of the forty sixth Congress and also a copy of the Statutes of the United States passed at the 1st Session of the forty seventh (47th) Congress also volumes I and II of the Official Register of the United States for 1881. All of these volumes are placed in the Library of this

Legation and marked the property of the United States.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Wm. A. Pinkham

Wing

San Francisco. March 6th 1882

Mr. Gustavus Goward
Secretary of Legation.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 13 1883
RECEIVED

To.
The Department of State

Subject.
Departure from San Francisco with "Treaty" and "Ciphers".

San Francisco. March 6th 1883.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have to inform the Department that I leave to-day on the Steamer Gaelic for my post at Tokio.

The packages instructed to my care said to be the Treaty with Corea and the "cipher." remain intact in my possession.

I have the honor to be Sir.
Your Obedient Servant.
Gustavus Goward
Secretary of Legation
at Tokio Japan

San Francisco March 6th 1863.

Hon Gustavus Fowand
Secretary of Legation
To
The Department of State.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 13 1863
RECEIVED

Subject.
Account for salary while receiving instructions -

San Francisco March 6th 1883

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington. D.C.

Sir.

I enclose herewith my account for instructions.

I have the honor to be. Sir.
Your obedient Servant.
Gustavus Govaud
Secretary of Legation.

Private and confidential.

No 1642

accdd with No. 1645 April 3, 1883. Cmtr.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 7th March 1883.

Mr. Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Correspondence with the Japanese Government in relation to the new Notification regulating the importation into Japan of Kerosene oil.

Enclosures

1. Extract from the Japan Weekly Mail of Feb 17 1883.
2. Mr. Bingham to Mr Inouye. Feb. 24th 1883
3. Mr Inouye to Mr. Bingham March 1 1883
4. Mr Bingham to Mr. Inouye March 2 1882.

Private and confidential

No 1642.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 7th March 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

On the 15th ultimo the Imperial Government of Japan issued a new notification (No 6.) regulating the importation into Japan of Kerosene oil a translation of which as published in the Japan Weekly Mail of the 17th ultimo I have the honor to enclose.

This notification having been brought to my attention by the China and Japan Trading

Co. (an American firm) I availed myself of an early occasion (the 21st ultimo) to confer with Mr Inouye His Imperial Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject. Mr Inouye expressed his surprise that the Notification had been given saying that he had never been consulted about it - and expressing the belief that there "must have been some mistake" in preparing it as published inasmuch as it was in direct conflict with Notifications Nos 40 and 50 issued in August and September 1881. and which were to go into full effect on the 1st of July next fixing the Kerosene oil standard

at 175° degrees Fahrenheit open-
burning test.

On the 24th ultimo I addressed
a note to Mr Inouye on the subject
a copy of which is herewith in-
which I called his attention to
the fact that this new regulation
of the 15th ultimo was manifestly
copied from the British Act of
1881. and which took effect July
1st 1881. and which placed restr-
-ictions on the importation into
India of Petroleum, except, in
this, that the new Japanese-
regulation required that Kerosene
oil for illuminating purposes-
should not be sold or used for
lighting in Japan the flashing
point of which by Professor Abel's

closed system should be under 86°
degrees Fahrenheit while the British
act freely admitted into India as
not dangerous, Kerosene oil whose
flashing point by Professor Abel's
closed system should be 73° (or
upwards) Fahrenheit.

I suggested you will please
note that no good reason could
be given for requiring in the tempe-
rate climate of Japan a flashing
test for illuminating Kerosene
oil 13° Fahrenheit greater than
that required by the British
Act for the tropical climate
of British India. On the 1st
instant Mr Inouye addressed
to me a private note of date the
1st instant a copy of which I

communicate herewith confidentially
to you. In this note you will
please observe that Mr Inouye
proposes to recommend to the
Nai-mu-kio (the Minister of the
Home ~~Office~~ Department) that the
enforcement of the new regulation
No 6 be postponed to the 1st of January
next. To this I made an official
reply on the 2nd instant (a copy
of which is also herewith.) wherein
I said among other things that
for reasons stated in my note
of the 24th ultimo and also
in my note (of the 2nd instant)
I could not favor the enforce-
-ment of order No 6. of date the
15th ultimo at any time, and
added that if enforced as —

/3.

proposed by him in the 1st of January next it would subject the importers to a loss on their stock of Kerosene now ashore and afloat to the amount of over 400,000 cases the burning test of which is only 115° Fahrenheit.

I also called attention to the fact that I had no notice that Sir Harry S. Parkes the British Minister had addressed the Foreign Minister when I wrote my note of the 24th ultimo.

The fact is the British Minister interfered on behalf of the British Importers and spoke to me of his action afterward Sir Harry having learned from

me my views on the subject stated that he concurred with me and subsequently sent me a copy of his letter to Mr Inouye dated the 21st ultimo.

The paper to which I referred in my note of the 24th ultimo to wit the despatch of Lord Hartington the Secretary of State for India bearing date the 29th of June 1882 and ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 20th July 1882. was furnished me by the China and Japan Trading Co. and contains the following paragraph:—

"The Petroleum Act 1881, the
"first general law which placed
"restrictions on the importation

"into India of Petroleum and similar
"Mineral oils came into force on
"the 1st July 1881. Under it Petro-
"leum is divided into two classes,
"non-dangerous, which may be freely
"imported and dangerous which can
"be imported only under restric-
"tions so severe as to be practically
"prohibitive. Section three (3.)
"defines dangerous petroleum as
"that the flashing point of which
"is below (73°) Seventy three degrees
"Fahrenheit by Professor Abel's
"test, this being nearly equivalent
"to 100° Fahrenheit by the less
"certain "open test", or to 120°
"Fahrenheit by the "fire" or "burning
"test."

I have good reason to believe

that this new order No 6 requiring a burning test of from 133° to 135° Fahrenheit will not be enforced before the 1st of January next= and it may be that it will become apparent to His Majesty's Government that no higher burning test than 115° Fahrenheit should hereafter be required.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure No 1 with
No 1642 Extract from
the Japan Weekly Mail
of February 17th 1883.

Enclosure No 1.
with No 1642.

THE NEW KEROSENE REGULATIONS.

Imperial Notification.

It is hereby notified that Proclamations Nos. 40 and 50, anent kerosene oil regulations, issued respectively in August and September of the 14th year of Meiji (1881) are revised as follows :—

Art. 1.—Kerosene oil will be divided into two classes, namely: (1) such oil as will not ignite at a temperature below 86 degrees Fahrenheit and 30 degrees centigrade; and (2) such oil as is inflammable below 30 degrees: both tests to be made on the "confined" system.

flash

Art. 2.—Only first-class oil must be used for lighting purposes: the second in medical treatment, or in preparing medicines of any kind, and for artistic, philosophic, and chemical experiments.

Art. 3.—Dealers in kerosene oil are divided into four classes viz., miners, manufacturers, wholesale merchants, and retailers. It is necessary for people in all of these classes to obtain the sanction of their local authorities to their business. Application must be made for special official approbation when one and the same person desires to combine two or more of the businesses. (Citizens of Tokiyo are required to apply for such permissions to the Board of Metropolitan Police.)

Art. 4.—The classification of kerosene will be conducted in such districts as the Home Minister may appoint, by officers duly entrusted with the task of examining the oil. The sale of kerosene oil without a certificate of its having passed the test is strictly prohibited. (The sale of oil by miners to refiners is not subject to this rule.)

Art. 5.—The amount of duly certified kerosene oil that may be kept at one time in any dwelling-house must not exceed :—(1st class) 5 *koku*; (2nd) 5 *to*. The vessel containing the oil must be of incombustible and watertight material.

Art. 6.—Dealers in oil which has not been officially tested, or is not subject to the above rules, must obtain the approval of the local authorities to the site and plan of their storehouses. Refiners must apply for instruction as to the method of building their factories. (Tokiyo citizens must apply to the Board of Metropolitan Police).

Art. 7.—Oil of the second class must necessarily be sold direct to those who require it. Retailers are only permitted to deal in first class oil.

Art. 8.—In case of a sale of second class oil, it is necessary that the buyer furnish a document showing the amount required, the purpose to which it is to be applied, the date of the transaction, and his own name and residence. Such documents must be preserved for at least one year, while the sale of the oil must not be effected before sunrise or after sunset.

Art. 9.—When kerosene oil has to be transported from one place to another, it must be marked "kerosene oil," and may not be stowed by roadside or landing place longer than is necessary for loading and unloading.

Art. 10.—Any infringement of the above regulations renders the offender liable to a fine of from two *yen* to two hundred *yen*.

The period of enforcement of the above regulations will be the same as was proclaimed in notification No. 44, issued in August of the 15th year of Meiji (1882).

February 15th, 16th year of Meiji (1883).

(Signed) Sanjo Saneyoshi, Prime Minister.
" Yamada Akiyoshi, Home Minister.

Enclosure (2)
with No 1642.

No 1948

United States Legation

Tokei Japan Feby 24th 1883.

His Excellency

Mr Inouye Kaoru.

His Imperial Japanese Majesty's

Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Sir:

Referring to our conversation on the 21st instant in relation to Imperial order No 6. of date the 15th instant revising the Imperial order of 1881 which fixed the standard of Kerosene oil for illuminating purposes at 115° Fahrenheit open burning test. I now beg leave to say that the official copy of the

letter of Her Britannic Majestys
Secretary of State for India as pub-
lished by order of the British House
of Commons on the 20th July 1882.
having come into my possession, I
find upon examination thereof that
the Petroleum Act of 1881 for India
which took effect the 1st July 1881.
divides Petroleum (Kerosene) into two
classes non-dangerous which may
be freely imported into that country
and dangerous which can only be
imported under restrections so severe
as the Honorable Secretary says as
to be practically prohibitive. By
this act Sec. three (3) dangerous
petroleum is defind as that, the
flashing point of which is below
73° degrees Fahrenheit by Professor

Abels closed test nearly equal to 100° flashing point Fahrenheit — open test" or 135° degrees Fahrenheit open burning test."

Of couse by this law for India Kerosene oil whose flashing point by the closed test of Prof. Abel is 73° degrees or above 73— " " Fahrenheit. is non-dangerous and is freely imported into India.

It would seem that the lecent order No 6- has been copied from this law for India and if 86° Fahrenheit flash point closed test is what is meant by the order No 6 it is manifist as you remarked to me "this is a mistake" as that is 13° degrees higher standard for this temperate

climate than is required for the tropical climate of India. As there is no reason for this deffference it must be "a mistake" and if insisted upon by your government it amounts as the British Secretary of State says" to a practical prohibition" of Kerosene oil for illuminating purposes in Japan" inasmuch as a closed flashing test of 86° is equal to an open flash test of about 114° Fahrenheit or to an open burning test of about 135° Fahrenheit! As order No 6 is to go into effect on the 1st of July next but little over four months hence allow me to bring to Your notice if 86° closed flash point as above mentioned

is the real intent and meaning of the order No 6 its enfacement will not only cut off all further trade with Japan in Kerosene oil but will result in very heavy loss to American importers who upon the faith of the order of September 1881 which fixed the standard of illuminating Kerosene oil at 115° Fahrenheit open burning test hold now in Japan 241.000 cases and purchased on afloat for Japan 1.171.475 cases making a total the property of American citizens of 1.412.475 cases to which add the stock of other foreign importers on hand and afloat 629.805 cases makes a total of 2.042,805 cases of Kerosene

to be affected by the prepared change of test.

As I am advised 150,000 cases is the monthly consumption of Kerosene in Japan, it results therefore that only 600.000 can be consumed or sold by the 1st. of July next leaving about 1.500,000 cases condemned by this proposed regulation if it means 86° Fahrenheit closed flash point tested by Professor Abel's instrument. Allow me to say that if the order No 6. be declared in plain english words to require from and after the 1st. of July next that illuminating Kerosene shall be 86° degrees Fahrenheit closed burning test by Prof. Abel's instrument or 115° degrees

open burning test by Saybolds —
instrument it will leave the test
the same as that fixed in 1881
and will work no injury in my
opinion to Japan or to the trade
in Kerosene oil. I beg leave to refer
you to my No 1717 of date the
28th of March 1882 which I had
the honor to address to your Excel-
lency and wherein I ventured to
recommend that (after due enquiry
by your own officers in Washington
and New York) your government
should declare that Kerosene cases
certified and stamped by the offi-
cial inspectors of the New York
produce exchange to contain Kero-
sene of 115° Fahrenheit open burning
test should be taken as prima

price correct subject however to a further test by you our officials in Japan if deemed needful.

Professor Abel's instrument for closed test is admitted to be exact if in skilled hands such as you might find it difficult to obtain at present in Japan, but for all practical purposes the open burning test by Saybold's instrument has commanded approval the world over, and is the instrument used in New York for the great bulk of the Kerosene oil exported from America to all countries.

Accept the renewed assurance of my highest consideration

Signed Jno A Bingham

Enclosure (3.)
with No 1642.

Mr Inouye
to
Mr Bingham

Copy

Foreign Office
March 1st 1883.

My dear Mr Bingham,

I am glad to hear that you were good enough to come to the office yesterday, and in my absence, to talk with Mr Shioda regarding the Kerosene oil matter. It appears that you and Sir Harry agree in the opinion that the oil now afloat is tested according to burning or fire test and would make some 17 or 18 degrees difference from the standard fixed by the new Regulations

Under this circumstance I am prepared to recommend to Nai-mu-kio a postponement

of the enforcement of the Regulations
Before doing so however I shall be
very happy to hear your opinion
as to the length of postponement.
In my opinion if the Regulations
were made to take effect from
January 1st next it would be
quite sufficient.

I am

Very Truly Yours

Inouye Kaoru

Enclosure (4.)
with No 1642.

No 1951

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 2nd Mar. 1883.

His Excellency

Inouye Kaoru

His Imperial Japanese Majesty's

Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Sir:

It gives me pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note of yesterday in relation to order No 6 issued on the 15th ultimo by His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government declaring that from and after the 1st of July next Kerosene oil for illuminating purposes in Japan should not be sold or

used under 86° degrees Fahrenheit
flashing point as I understand
by the closed test of Professor
Abel which is equal to 133° Fah-
renheit open burning test as
determined by Saybold's instrument
now approved throughout the
United States and the Commercial
world. This new test adds at least
18° Fahrenheit burning test to
the standard of Kerosene oil for
illuminating purposes required by
the Imperial orders of Your
Government now in force and
which were issued in the year
1881. You are pleased to say
in your note that "you (S.)
"and Sir Harry S. Parkes agree
"in opinion that the oil now

afloat is tested according to
"burning or fire test." As appears
by Sir Harry's letter to Your
Excellency of date the 21st ultimo,
and to which you manifestly
refer, Sir Harry not only agrees
with the representation made by
me in my letter to Your Excel-
lency of the 24th ultimo that
the new order No 6 not only
increases the burning test required
by existing orders of your Govern-
ment 18° degrees Fahrenheit but
it further appears that Sir
Harry agrees with me that the
present burning test 115° Fahren-
heit as fixed in 1881 "is amply
sufficient for all purposes of
safety" and that he deems it

"his duty to support the request
"of the importers that the stan-
"dard fixed by your government
"in notification (No 50) namely a
"burning test of 115° Fahrenheit
"should not be exceeded."

Allow me to say that when
I wrote and sent my letter
to you of the 24th ultimo I
had no knowledge that Sir Harry
had addressed you on the subject
I therefore am the more confirmed
in the correctness of the views
which I therein expressed and
beg your careful consideration
of the statements therein made
by me, and especially to the
fact therein set forth by me
that if 86° required by order

No 6. means 86° flashing point as I infer it does to be determined by Professor Abel's closed test- it is 13° degrees higher than that required in the tropical climate of India where 10,000,000 cases have been received in one year from the United States (of - Kerosene) whose flashing point by Professor Abel's closed test was required by law to be only 73° degrees Fahrenheit.

Allow me to add that the burning test of Kerosene in the United States is but 110° Fahrenheit - and that - this is the general test in the commercial world while your order of 1881 now in force requires

a burning test of 115° Fahrenheit
which I venture to say is as safe
for this temperate climate as any
Kerosene in the markets of the
world. To adopt your proposed
new rule of 133° or 135° Fahren-
heit burning test would be
practically to destroy the trade
in Japan of the only staple
production of the United States
which is largely consumed by
your people and which is in
my opinion an article of ne-
cessity to their industries and
comfort. Why discriminate again
this production of the United
States when you have already
a perfectly safe standard fixed
by law to wit 115° Fahrenheit
burning test, and 5° degrees

higher than that generally used in the United States where — in many and large areas these are much higher temperatures than in Japan.

In reply to your request that I give you my opinion upon your proposition to recommend a postponement of the enforcement of order No 6. until the 1st of January next. I beg leave to say that for the reasons set forth in this note and also in my note of the 24th ultimo I cannot favor the enforcement of order No 6 at any time and that if its enforcement be fixed as you suggest on the 1st of January next, that

would involve the loss to the importers of over 400,000 cases of Kerosene oil of the standard of 115° degrees now in store and en route for Japan! in asmuch as the stock on hand and afloat and purchased for this market on the faith of order No 50. amounts in gross to 2,042,805 cases. and the monthly consumption in Japan is but 150,000 cases equal in the coming ten (10) months to only 1,550 cases.

I beg leave to renew to your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

Signed Jno C. Kingsbury

No 1643.

Report to Navy dept. for Hydrographic Office April 3, 1883. cr'd to

DEPARTMENT OF STATE APR 2 1883 RECEIVED

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 7th March 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Forwards Official Report on Light houses &c

Enclosure

One Official Report on Lighthouses &c for 1882.

No. 1643.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan March 7th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to enclose an official report for the year 1883. of the Japanese Light Houses, Light ships - Buoys and Beacons.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Rec'd by mail
from Yokohama

No 1644.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 8th March 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.
Loss of the U. S. Ship "Ashuelot"

No 1644.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 8th March 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I regret to report that on the 18th ultimo one day out from Amoy off the coast of China the United States Ship "Ashuelot" Captain Mullin commanding struck upon a rock and went down carrying with her eleven (11) of the crew. All the officers and the residue of the crew were saved by the Boats. I understand that there were six persons on board

who were sick all of whom were saved and the special care for whom possibly cost others their lives. How long will Congress neglect to provide for Naval Ships fit to carry the American flag and fit to represent the foremost Republic of the world!

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

W. A. Kingsbury

Acted with
No 16 Mr. Apr. 3, 83
Carter

W Wing

No. 1645.

United States Legation
Tokei, Japan, March 8. 1883.

Mr. Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr. Inouye's recommendation that the enforcement of new Kerosene regulation be post-poned. Also his request that Mr. Bingham's communication of March 2. 1883 be withdrawn.

Enclosures

1. Mr. Inouye to Mr Bingham March 8 1883
2. " Bingham to Mr Inouye March 8 1883.

Private and confidential.

No. 1645.

United States Legation,
Tokei, Japan, March 8, 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my No. 1642 and to its enclosures marked respectively 3 and 4 in relation to the new Kerosene regulation issued on the 15th ultimo, I beg leave to acquaint you that His Excellency Mr. Inouye the Minister for Foreign Affairs called on me this morning and said that he had recommended that the enforcement of said new regulation be post-poned for one year, of which he would notify me by a private note

which has just now come to hand, a copy of which I herewith enclosed marked confidential.

1645

Mgr. Sinouy further said in his conversation this morning that he wished to return to me my reply to his private note of the 1st inst., and which reply is dated the 2d inst. a copy of which marked Enclosure 4 is with my No. 1642. The Minister assigned as his reason for this request that he did not wish it to appear of record in his office (as my despatch of the 2d inst. discloses) that he had written me on the subject at that time. I answered him that I would not object to his returning the despatch of the 2d inst. to me, (as he has done,) but that it would of necessity

remain of record in this Legation and that a copy of it would be sent, as I deemed it my duty, in a despatch to you marked however, private and confidential. This seemed to satisfy the Minister. I replied to Mr. Snouys' private note this morning in an unofficial communication a copy of which I have the honor to enclose. I have no doubt the new regulation will be postponed for one year; and I hope it may finally be abandoned.

This regulation originated in the Home Department, and was issued without Mr. Snouys' knowledge or approval. Hence, I think, his desire that my

official reply of the 2d inst.
should be withdrawn from
his records.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure 1 in No. 1645

Copy.

Private

Foreign Office Tokio
March 8, 1883.

My dear Mr. Bingham:

Referring to my private note of the 1st instant, I have the pleasure to inform you that I have recommended to Naimusho a postponement for the period of one year of the enforcement of the Kerosene oil Regulation. Under this circumstance and in accordance with conversation just had I herewith enclose to you your letter, with request that you will kindly reply to me in a private form.

Regarding the standard of oil I would say that my intention is to institute meantime some farther enquiries. Permit me to assure you of my great regret in often troubling you in this matter

I am very truly yours. (Signed) Inouye Kaoru.

Enclosure No. 2 in No. 1645

Copy.

Private.

Legation of the United States,
Tokei, Japan, March 8, 1883.

My dear Mr. Inouye:

Accept my thanks for your kind private note of this morning. It is gratifying to me to know that you have recommended the postponement of the enforcement of the Kerosene oil Regulation No 6. of date the 15 ultimo for one year. and I hope that your Government may upon further consideration conclude that the standard of illuminating kerosene oil at 115° burning open test as fixed by Notification No. 50 is all sufficient for safety in Japan inasmuch as it is 5° higher than the Standard in the U. S. and in Europe Generally.

Truly yours.

Jno. A. Bingham.

Received Apr 26 1883 Cipher

No 1646

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Japan will participate in the proposed Conference of Nations in Washington to fix upon a common Zero of Longitude.

Enclosure.

1. Mr Inouye to Mr Bingham
March 20th 1883.

No 1646

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

Refering to my No 1608 of date the 8th of December last in which I had the honor to acquaint you of my action in relation to circular Instruction of date the 23rd of October 1882. Concerning the proposed conference of nations in Washington for the purpose of fixing upon a meridian as a common Zero of Longitude and Standard of time reckoning through-

-out the globe; I now beg leave to
enclose a Translation copy of the
reply of His Excellency Mr Inouye
His Majesty's Minister for Foreign
Affairs, in which You will please
observe the Minister remarks -
that His Imperial Majesty's Govern-
ment in view of the great importance
of the Subject have decided to par-
ticipate in the proposed Internatio-
nal Conference and that he will
further advise me upon the app-
ointment of the Japanese Delegate
thereto.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Mr A. Ringgaard

Enclosure No 1 with

Copy No 1646

Translation

No 4 Foreign Office. Tokio

The 20th the 3rd Month

the 16th year Meiji

(March 20th 1883.)

His Excellency

John A Bingham

Envoy Extraordinary and Minister

Plenipotentiary of the U. S. A.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's despatch No 1927 under date Dec. 7th 1882, enclosing a copy of a circular instruction addressed to Your Excellency by the Honorable the Secretary of State and enquiring

of me whether it would be the intention of H. I. J. M's Government to participate in an International Conference which is to be held at Washington for the purpose of fixing upon a meridian proper to be employed as a common zero of longitude and standard of time reckoning throughout the globe.

In reply I beg to acquaint Your Excellency that H. I. M's Government in view of the great importance of the subject, have decided to participate in the said International Conference and that I shall have the pleasure of further communicating with Your Excellency after the appointment of the Japanese delegate to the Conference.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

(signed) Inouye Kaoru

H. I. J. M's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Received Apr 26 1883
Archives

No 1647.

Arming

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

The enforcement of Notification No 6. (1883) and No 44 (1882) relating to the standard of Kerosene oil, indefinitely post-poned.

No 1647.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my No 1642 of date the 7th instant with its several enclosures in relation to Notification No 6 issued on the 15th ultimo prescribing a new standard of Kerosene oil imported into this Empire;— I now have the pleasure to acquaint you that on the 16th inst. the Imperial Government indefinitely postponed the enforcement of said Notification No 6 and

also of Notification 44 issued
August last thereby leaving the
standard 115° open burning test
as heretofore for illuminating
Kerosene. The following is a
translation of the order of postpone-
ment, "Imperial Notification. Notice
is hereby given that Kerosene oil
regulations, promulgated by Notifications
No 44 published in August 1882
and No 6. in February of this year
will not be enforced until further
notice. Signed Sanjô Sanetomi
Prime Minister
Yamada Akiyoshi.
Home Minister.

16th March 1883.

I have urged that No 6
may be abandoned and that the
standard may remain at 115° Fah-

renheit as heretofore fixed by this government and accepted by the importers. I do not suppose that No 6 will ever be insisted upon, but it is difficult to persuade this Government that it would work harm to the trade to fix the burning test at 120° Fahrenheit as that is understood to be the standard of Great Britain.

I am quite sure that even this change will not be made, if at all, during the current year.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

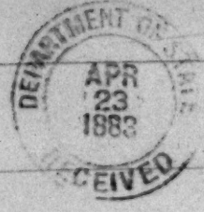
Your Obedient Servant.

Wm A. Seaghram

File
Circular Since
Received. See
Mr Receipts
16th 4th 1883
Order.

No 1648.

Irving



United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

The government of Japan desires to participate in the Boston exhibition, and desires to obtain the circular of the Exhibition Association.

No 1648.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

Hon Frederick T Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my No 1639 — wherein I had the honor to acquaint you that I had in accordance with your circular Instruction of date 25th of January last transmitted a copy thereof to His Excellency Mr Inouye with an explanatory note (a copy of which I enclosed with my No 1639.) I beg leave to say that a few days since I was verbally informed that this govern-

ment expects to participate in the Boston Exhibition and is desirous to obtain the Circular of the Foreign Exhibition Association of Boston, which circular referred to in your said Instruction has not reached to me.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Wm. A. Pinkham

No 1649

Respectfully Navy Dept. 18 copies to Navy Dept. Apr 25.83 Adler

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR
23
1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr Bingham transmits copies of official "Notice to Mariners."

Enclosure.

18 copies of Notice to Mariners.

No 1649.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

Hon. Frederick T Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit for your information and for the information of the Treasury and Naval Departments eighteen copies of the official Notice to Mariners No 1 of the 16th year of Meiji 1883 - concerning the Nikomoto Light on the South-eastern coast of the province of Idsu Japan.

I have -

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

File

No 1650.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR
23
1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Six mail pouches returned to the Department of State.

No 1650.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

In a separate package I return to the Department by the outgoing mail six several mail pouches including the pouch in which the others are enclosed.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Par. adv.

No 1651.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR
23
1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Bill of exchange No 16. drawn upon the Hon. the Secretary of State for the rent of the U. S. Court house and jail at Tsukiji Tokio.

Enclosure

(1) Receipt of John Fogg. Twombly.

No 1651.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 21st March 1883.

Hon. Frederick T Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my No 1414 of date the 8th December 1881 with which I enclosed a contract entered into by me with Mr John F Twombly for the renewal of the Lease of the House and grounds for Court House and Jail in Tokei then and since occupied by this Legation and referring also to your Instruction No 652 of date March 14th 1882 wherein you were pleased

to approve my action in the premises; I now have the honor to inform You that I have drawn my Bill of Exchange No 16 upon You to the order of John. F. Twombly of date the 15th instant for thirty four hundred dollars United States gold under said agreement of the 8th December 1881. renewing said Lease and which sum is in full of the rent thereby agreed to be paid by the United States for the year ending the 15th March 1883. as shown by the receipt herewith enclosed of said Twombly - signed John Gogg Twombly by his attorney William Pasch.

In thus drawing directly

upon you for the rent I follow the former Instructions of the Department.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Jn° A. Dingman

United States Legation
Tokei Japan March 31st/83

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith Duplicate Statement of my account with vouchers for salary as Interpreter of this Legation for the first quarter of the current year showing that I drew on Morton Rose and Co. London March 31st 1883 for £128-8-7 and that I received therefor the equivalent of 625.00/00 United States gold and no more.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant.
Samuel R. Frazier.

United States Legation
Tokio Japan March 31st 1883

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith statement of my account with vouchers, for salary as Interpreter of this Legation for the first quarter of the current year, showing that I drew on Morton Rose and Co. March 31st 1883 for £128-8-7. and that I received therefor the equivalent of $625 00/00 United States gold and no more.

I have the honor to be
Sir.
Your obedient Servant
Samuel R. Brazier.

No 1652.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY
3
1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 2nd April 1883

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.
Receipt of Instructions Nos. 710, 711, 712 with enclosures.

No 1652.

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 2d April 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Instructions numbered respectively 710. 711. and 712. with enclosures.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno A. Bingham

File

No 1653.

Inning

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 2nd April 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY
5
1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.

Letter of the Hon. Secretary of State to Mr J. R Frazier accepting his resignation, delivered in accordance with Instruction.

No 1653.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 2nd April 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State.
Washington D C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with your Instruction No 712. your letter to Mr Samuel R Frazier transmitted therewith, accepting his resignation of the office of Interpreter to this Legation to take effect on the 31st ultimo was by me delivered to him on the 23rd ultimo.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
M. A. Burlingame

File

No 165 L.

Wrung

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 2nd April 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.

Circular of the Exhibition Association of Boston received and transmitted to H. I. J. M's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

No 1654.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 2nd April 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State.
Washington D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my No. 1639. of date the 3rd of March 1883. in relation to the proposed exhibition in Boston of foreign productions. and wherein I acquainted you that the Circular of the Foreign Exhibition Association of Boston mentioned in your Circular Instruction of the 25th of January last had not reached me, I now beg leave to report that said

Circular of the Exhibition Association of Boston was received by me on the 23rd instant and was immediatly transmitted to His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs for the information of this Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

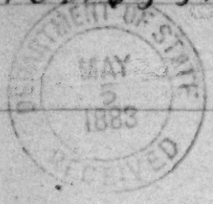
Your Obedient Servant.

Wm A. Burghardt

File

No. 1655.

Dr mug



United States Legation,
Tokei, Japan April 3d 1883.

Mr. Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject:

Repeated recommendation of Mr. Willis
N. Whitney to be Interpreter to the U. S.
Legation. Tokei. Japan.

No. 1655.

United States Legation

Tokei, Japan, April 3d 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

Referring to Instruction No. 712 wherein you were pleased to express the wish to receive from me a recommendation of a suitable person for appointment as Interpreter to this Legation I beg leave most respectfully to refer you to my recommendation of Mr. Willis A. Whitney a citizen of the United States and of the State of New Jersey to be Interpreter to this Legation contained in my No.

1625 of date the 25th of January last,
and my No. 1633 of date the 14th of February
last.

I have the honor to repeat my recommendation of Mr. Whitney for appointment as Interpreter to this Legation, knowing him to be in every sense a suitable person and well qualified for the position. I would greatly prefer Mr. Whitney for the office of Interpreter to any other person in Japan whose services we could possibly obtain.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Jno. A. Bingham

No 1656.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan, April 4th 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject.
Receipt of Instructions Nos 713.
714, 715 and 716 acknowledged.

No 1656.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan, April 4th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Instructions numbered respectively 713, 714, 715 and 716.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Jno A. Bingham

No 1657.

Irving

United States Legation

Tokei Japan 4th April 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1883
RECEIVED

Mr Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

Arrival of Mr Gustavus Goward Secretary of Legation reported to the Hon. Secretary of State.

No 1657.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 4th April 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

It gives me much pleasure to acquaint you of the arrival of Mr Gustavus Goward Secretary of this Legation and that he has this day reported and entered upon duty.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant.
Jno A Bingham

No 1658.

Received May 18, 1883.

Mr Irving

For Mr Hunt
May 17/83

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 4th April 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State

Subject

Papers relating to the "Diana-Outrage" Oct. 21st 1881. transmitted to the U. S. Government at the request of H. E. the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs.

To Mr Hunt Feb 19-83 (No. 29
" " Aug 16-83 (No. 10)

No 1658.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 4th April 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I am in receipt of a note from His Excellency Mr Inouye His Imperial Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs of date the 2nd instant with which he transmitted certain "papers relating to the "Diana outrage" October 21st 1881" which papers the Minister in his note requested me to convey to our Government a copy which note together with the original papers

above mentioned. I have the honor to enclose herewith. I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Jn. A. Dix

Copy Enclosure No 1658.

Translation

No 6 Foreign Office, Tokio
The 2d. the 4th. Month
the 16th. Year of Meiji.

His Excellency
John A Bingham
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the U. S. A.

Sir:

I have the honor to acquaint Your Excellency that in April 1881 the Japanese subjects named Heijoro, Kanekichi, Kumakichi and 16 others, were engaged by Mr. L. H. Petetson a citizen of the United States as seamen on board American otter hunting-schooner "Diana" of which he was Captain; they then sailed in said schooner to the North-eastern Sea

and we are engaged in hunting until the latter part of October. On the 25th. of that month with the object of obtaining a supply of water the vessel came to anchor off the Copper Island a Russian possession and boats were sent for the purpose, manned by a number of the crew; when near the shore some persons concealed on the island suddenly attacked the boats by firing guns at them. The consequence was that besides the foreigners, three Japanese were killed and three more wounded Thereupon the "Diana" proceeded to Petropavlovsk the nearest Russian port where representations were made to the local authorities and medical treatment for the wounded

seamen was secured. On the 26th of November the "Diana" with these men entered Yokohama and the wounded Japanese were treated in the Jinzen Hospital.

I beg to refer Your Excellency to the enclosed papers which upon a careful personal will show these circumstances more minutely. Considering the actual circumstances connected with the shipment of the crew and the departure of said "Diana", from Yokohama - the vessel upon her departure having hoisted the American flag, and having been entered and cleared at the U. S. Consulate-General and the Japanese seamen having been formerly shipped at the same office, it is only natural

to infer that the "Diana" should be regarded as a vessel owned by an American citizen. Under such circumstances the Japanese seamen on board must have committed their persons and lives while serving thereon to the protection of the American flag. Thus Your Excellency will readily perceive that due recompence for any injuries suffered in the present case should be claimed against or through Your Government.

I am advised that after repeated communications between the Kenrei of Kanagawa and Mr Van Buren, the U. S. Consul-General on the subject, the latter stated that he should report the affair to Your Excellency in order

to obtain instructions from the Home Government, which instructions, he observed, when received, would enable him to declare definitely what further steps would be taken in the matter.

On my own part I should have brought this urgent question much sooner to your Excellency's notice had I not deemed it advisable first to await the issue of the wounds received by the Japanese before formally addressing your Excellency.

I trust that your Excellency will kindly convey these statements of the case to your Government, through which it is not doubted, a satisfactory arrangement with the Russian Government will

be made.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Inouye Kaoru

Papers relating

to

the "Diana" outrage

October 25, 1881

Copy

26th December 1881

Sir

As I am desirous of questioning Captain L. N. Peterson and Messrs. C. H. Conrad, Ten Vale and W. Smith of the American schooner Diana, I have the honor to request you kindly to direct them to attend at the Kencho on the 28th instant at 9 30 A. M.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

(Sd.) Inogai Saige

Under Secretary

acting for the Kanagawa Kenrei

C. Van Buren Esqre

United States Consul General.

United States Consulate General

Kanagawa Japan

Decr. 26th. 1881

Isogai Saizo Esqre

Acting for the Kanagawa Ken Rei

Sir,

In reply to your letter of to day in which you ask me to direct Messrs. Petersen, Conrad, Von Wall and Smith of the Schooner "Diana" to attend at the Kencho on the 28th. inst at 10.30 A. M. I have to say that I will endeavor to comply with your request.

I have further to say that I have put H. I. J. M's Minister for Foreign Affairs, as well as the U. S. Minister in possession of copies of all the evidence in my keeping touching the affair of the "Diana", and the

the latter with all papers and facts bearing upon the matter.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
(Sd.) Thos. B. Van Buren
U. S. Consul General

29th December 1881

Sir

On the 26th instant I requested you to cause Captain Petersen and others of the schooner "Diana" to attend at the Kencho at 9-30 o'clock this morning; to which you replied that you would give orders to that effects.

I have however, waited in vain, for them until now, and have therefore to request you to be good enough to inform me what was the cause of their non-attendance.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant

(Sd.) Iidyeii Saizo

Under Secretary

acting for Sanagawa Ken Rei

Thos. B Van Buren Esqre
U. S. Consul General

Copy

United States Consulate General

~~No.~~ 5625

Kanagawa (Yokohama) Japan

December 28th. 1881

Isogai Saizo Esqre,

Acting Kenrei

Sir,

In reply to your letter of to day asking me to inform of the "cause of the non-attendance of Cap. Peterson and others" of the schooner "Diana", at the Kencho this morning at 9.30, as requested in your letter of the 26th inst, I have to say that I made your request known to the parties referred to, as I said I should do, and advised their attendance.

Why they did not attend I am not informed but can very well imagine that they are tired of being examined about a matter,

concerning

concerning which they have repeated
to myself and the Germain consul
all the facts of the case in the fullest
manner.

I beg to say also that I have
not only conveyed to you in a personal
interview all facts in my possession
concerning the subjects but have furnished
the Foreign Department of your Govern-
ment with a copy of all the evidence
of the parties you wish now to appear
at the Kencho and also have sent
the same to the United States Minister
at Yokiyo, together with a copy of all
papers or file at this Consulate General
referring to the "Diana"

Finally I beg to inform you
that I have no power to compel the
attendance of an American citizen
at the Kencho — my requests to that
effect

effects are generally acceded to.

Captain Petersen is the only American citizen of the three men referred to — of the others, one is a Germain and the other a Norwegian subject

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

(Sd.) J. B. Van Buren

Consul General

Minutes of conversation between Mr. Isogai Secretary and Mr. Van Buren U. S. Consul-General.

Mr. Isogai:—

Is the schooner Diana a registered American ship and is she an Otter-hunting ship?

Mr. Van Buren:—

The schooner 'Diana' is not a properly registered American ship. She was built in Japan, and as she is owned by an U. S. citizen, she can hoist an American flag & and is regarded as an American ship, but she can not be regarded as a registered & American vessel.

The ship has no fixed occupation either as otter-hunting ship or otherwise.

It is the rule that when a registered American ship engages seamen & the contract

is signed by the parties in this consulate. The schooner 'Diana' not being registered this procedure is not necessary. Nevertheless the parties are directed to attend at the Consulate to sign the contract in order to prevent any difficulty being experienced by the Japanese seamen in receiving their wages &c. They make contracts in this way, and when the voyage for which they were engaged is over, both parties again attend at the consulate and settle the payment of wages &c, after which the contracts are cancelled and of no effect.

Mr. Isogai:—

Are Capt. Peterson, the mate and the two Hunters all American citizens?

Mr. Van Buren:—

Capt. Lorenzo H. Peterson is a German by birth, but was naturaliged in America and is now an American citizen. He is a

principal owner of the schooner 'Diana'. The mate who is also a Hunter and another Hunter are German subjects while the third is a Norwegian.

Mr. Isogai:—

Although the schooner Diana may not be an American ship in the proper sense of the word, could she, because she flys an American flag claim as against Mr.

Mr. Van Buren:—

Yes.

Mr. Isogai:—

Have you received from the Captain a full report of the unlawful firing by the Islanders?

Mr. Van Buren:—

I have received full reports of the case from the Captain and others. Our Minister has also requested me to furnish him with

a detailed report which I have just prepared.

I will state the facts briefly: — at the end of April last, schooner 'Diana' sailed from Yokohama for the northern part of the Pacific Ocean. In the middle of October the weather was bad for four or five days and the ship was floating about, the wood drinking water &c became short, when the Captain sighted the Copper Island and observed a waterfall in the distance. Accordingly the ship anchored at a distance of about 2000 yards from the shore and the Captain sent two boats to find a landing place. When yet 50 yards from the Island some persons on the Island whose bodies were not seen, fired upon the boats and some of those on board them were either killed or wounded. The firing continued and the boats were making all endeavours to return

to the schooner when the latter observing the firing weighed anchor and approached towards them in order to rescue them. At last the boats were gotten on board, the firing however still continued, and several shots reached the schooner. The schooner then raised the American flag with the sign of distress and expected some local official would come; but none coming, she set sail for Petropavlovsk which place she reached in five days. There a surgeon and an American resident came on board and gave all assistance to the wounded. An order came from the Local Governor desiring the Captain to land. The Captain accordingly went on shore where he was interrogated by an officer of the country as to where he had obtained the skins on board "Diana" and was ordered to deliver them up to their authorities. The Captain explained to the Governor

that he had not taken these skins in the Russian territory but the latter did not listen to him and finally sent a number of armed men on board and seized the skins by force. The Governor then gave the Captain a receipt for the seized skins and also some paper addressed to the Russian Consul at Yokohama. The Captain requested the Governor to go with him to Copper Island in order to prove that he had not obtained those skins in its neighborhood and also to make an investigation into the circumstances of the outrage, but the Governor refused to do so on account of the bad and cold weather. Thus the Governor refusing to listen what the Captain said; the latter started for Yokohama. Immediately on arrival at the latter port the Captain sent the two wounded foreigners to the German Hospital and the Japanese to the

Jinzen Hospital. Those of the Japanese who returned unhurt were paid off at the Consulate while the money due to those who cannot attend at the Consulate in person and those who died, was handed over to the Kencho.

Mr. Isogai:—

Then the Japanese who were engaged in the schooner here have no connection with her so soon as they return from a voyage and have been paid off.

Mr. Van Buren:—

No.

Mr. Isogai:—

Will you make a report to the proper authorities respecting the outrage committed upon the schooner.

Mr. Van Buren:—

I have sent to my Government a full report of the case inclosing the reports

sent by the Captain the Mate Hunters &c.

Mr. Isogai :—

What further steps are you going to take with respect to the killed or wounded Japanese lately serving on board the 'Diana' since the event occurred while they were serving in an American ship?

Mr. Van Buren:—

No further steps can be taken with respect to the Japanese until after instructions from the Home Government are received. The schooner not being a properly registered American ship, I do not know what the instructions will be.

Mr. Isogai:—

I understand that the Captains statements at the time of the seizure of the skins at Petropovlovsk was not listened to by the Governor. Did the Captain then inform the Governor that there were

wounded men on board.

Mr. Van Buren:—

The Captain told the Governor of the wounded men and requested him to receive them on land and give them medical treatment. The Governer however refused to come by with this request. But gave the letter addressed to the Russian Consul in Yokohama and told him that if it should be found hereafter that the seizure of the skins was unlawful, the Captain would be recompenced. The Captain accordingly presented on arrival at this port the letter to Mr. Pelipan the Russian Consul at this port, and requested him to investigate the matter, but the Consul declined on the ground that it was not a part of his duty to do so.

Mr. Isogai:—

I understand that the wounded

Japanese were sent to the Jugen Bugoin by a gentleman from number 235. Do you know who and of what nationality he is?

Mr. Van Buren:—

He is Captain Petersen, I had nothing to do with the matter.

Mr. Isogai:—

Do you know what further steps the Captain intends to take with reference to these Japanese as it was during the time they were employed by him that the outrage was committed?

Mr. Van Buren:—

I do not know any thing about it. As it was not through the Captain's fault that the Japanese were wounded or killed, he can not be held responsible for the event. I also have nothing to do with it.

Mr. Isogai:—

Was there any agreement made between Russia and the United States at the time of the transfer of Alaska, referring to American ships hunting in the neighborhood of Kamchatka?

Mr. Van Buren:—

I can not answer about the agreement without looking up. The Russian Government has a right to prohibit hunting by foreign ships within its territories, but it certainly has no right to fire without a warning upon open vessels carrying no arms. It was indeed as savage act.

Voyage of the schooner "Diana" from Yokohama to the North Pacific Ocean.

Extract from the ships log of the schooner "Diana"

We left Yokohama on the 27th of April 1881 and arrived at Scotan one of the Kurile Islands on the 9th of May, from there we went to the island Kuna shir, and began our hunting until on the 26th September we anchored in the small Kurile straits.

There we met an American schooner the "Flying Mist" from San Francisco, on the 28th of September we set sail for the island of St Mathew and if possible also for St Laurence. On the 5th of October we spoke the schooner "Helena" from Yokohama. On the 13th of October we were in latitude 58° 30' N and longitude 164° 30" at this time we had a strong south wind with heavy sea, as soon as the sea and wind settled we steered for the Copper island there to take on board water and wood for the return voyage to Yokohama.

On the 18th of October we sighted the Copper island, direction by compass S. W. distance 25 miles from the A, E, land point.

On the 19th of October we spoke the schooner "Otter" of San Francisco bound from Arasha to Yokohama

On the 20th of October a slight storm from S, S, W, with a very high sea. From the 21st to the 28th of October the wind increased to a storm and blew from the A, E, high sea from the west.

The northern point of the Copper island by compass A, A, E, distance 15 miles; at six o'clock A, M, we steered direct to land in order to find a suitable place for our boats to take in water. On the 27th of October we had bad weather, fog and heavy rain wind E, A, E, we tried to take ~~the ship~~ to the south east side of the island.

October the 25th a freek wind from E, A, E, and heavy sea from S, W, at 7 o'clock A, M, we anchored in 17 fathoms about (15 sea miles) A, W, from the S, E, land point. At 8 o'clock after

after breakfast 3 boats left the ship in order to seek a good landing place, as we saw a water fall near.

The course was west straight to the Island it was impossible to land, where we had seen the water, the sea being too heavy, the boats were about 2 to 3 thousand yards from the ship and 50 to 70 yards from the shore, when the natives who had hid themselves behind stones rocks or other things above on the mountain, afterwards we saw by the smoke of their guns without seeing the people that a deadly fire had been opened upon us without giving us the slightest warning not to land there, or any knowledge of their presence.

Three persons were killed by the first shots (Japanese) and five others wounded amongst whom were two Europeans. A boat with a wounded man on board was fortunate enough to reach the ship, we immediately weighed anchor and set sail in order to help the other boats, which were quite helpless, being in many

places bored with shot, full of water, r and without oars, during this time the inhabitants stopped shooting at the r boats.

As we were taking the dead and r wounded out the boats, they fired again upon us, two balls hit the deck of r the ship, the balls we have kept. As soon as we had all the men on board, we set all sails for Petropavlovsk, in order to get medical help. On the same day a schooner came in sight, whose r Captain came on board, because he saw we carried up flags half mast high, we beged for some bondage material but r unfortunately he did not possess any. After five days voyage we carried in r Petropavlovsk. Here after a few days our sealskins (572) were taken from us by the Russian authorities under the pretex that we had caught them on the Copper r island, driven back by the inhabitants, we most likely had fired upon them, thus compelling the said inhabitants to fire upon us; or that some other ship r had been there before and had fired

upon the people of the island, perhaps ~ killed or wounded some of them, and that our ship might have been mistaken for another one.

After nine days stay in Petropaulovsk the Doctor assured us that we might ~ continue our voyage to Yokohama ~ without much danger to the wounded ~ men. After a long and unfavourable voyage, heavy bad weather, and the loss of two boats, which we were compelled to throw over board, we arrived on the 26th. November, 1881 at Yokohama.

Signed L. K. Peterson
Capatain of the schooner "Diana"

No. 1369. Heard at Yokohama on the 19th of December 1881.

In the Imperial Consulate appeared the German subject Fritz van Well at his personal examination he gives evidence concerning the wounds received by him on board the schooner "Diana" sailing under the American Flag, from the inhabitants of the Copper island belonging to the chief group, in protocol as follows.

My name is Friedrich, Wilhelm, van Well I was born on the 29th of January 1845 at Dangig in the kingdom of Prussia, by trade I am a ships carpenter. My Father died in my early youth and also my mother after I had reached my 14th year. I do not know exactly what position my father held.

The wounds which I received consist of 2 gunshot wounds in the lower part of the left leg, one in the lower part of the right leg, one in the right thigh, one spent shot in the knuckle of the first finger of the left hand, at the

same time injury to the left shoulder, one shot which entered in the left side — penetrated to the shoulder blade.

According to the opinion of my medical attendant Dr Gutekow I may hope to be quite recovered in two months and I hope not to be longer prevented through my wounds, from following my trade

Signed Fritz von Well
a. d. S.

Signed Gebauer.

No. 1373 Heard at Yokohama on the 21st of December 1881.

In answer to an official summons Friedrich von Well ships Carpenter appeared at the Imperial German Consulate; formerly seaman on board the schooner "Diana" Otter and seal skin fisher sailing under the Flag of the United States of North America. Identified and able to give evidence.

On reading one of the reported accounts of the Commander of the schooner "Diana", on one side regarding the inhabitants of the Copper island belonging to the Commander Groupe situated in the North Pacific Ocean, who made an attack upon the crew of the said ship by firearms; which attack took place during the landing of the boats for the purpose of fetching water from the above island. The witness Fritz van Well declared that the said account in general expressed the truth; but still there is one mistake, as the account says the three boats which were going to land were about 70 yards from the shore when the inhabitants of the island opened fire upon them,

whereas in fact 2 of the said boats in one of which the witness was himself, were already so near to the shore that they were just about to land.

In the remaining portions of the account of the affair the statement so far as he knows agrees with the truth.

Questioned concerning his position as seaman on board the Otter fisher, and concerning his interests in the profits of the hunting; the witness declared that he possessed a claim on the schooner Diana which represented the worth of one fourth of the ship, and that he also at the same time would receive a fourth part of the net profits of the hunting and that on board he held the position of overcooker of the hunting.

Signed Fritz on Well.

a u s

Signed Gebauer.

No. 1383. Heard at Yokohama the 27th of December 1881.

In answer to an official summons Carl Conrad German subject appeared at the Imperial German Consulate, he was formerly seaman on board the schooner "Diana" sailing under the Flag of the United States of North America.

Identified and able to give evidence he upon personal examination gives in Protocol as follows.

My name is Carl Robert Conrad. I am 28 years of age, I was born at Mirbenfelde near Arnswalde in the province of Pommerania, I am of the Protestant religion, and I am a seaman; my parents are both living at Stuthoff near Lippehne in the province of Pommerania.

On reading one of the reported accounts of the Commander of the schooner Diana which sailed for Otter and sealskin hunting, on one side regarding the inhabitants of the Copper island belonging to the Commander Groupe situated in the North Pacific Ocean, who made an attack by fire arms upon the crew of the above named

ship, which attack took place during the landing of the boats for the purpose of fetching water from the island, the witness Carl Conrad declared that the statement agreed with truth, excepting in one particular namely the distance of the boats from the shore at the moment when the fire was opened upon them, he begs to differ from the aforesaid account in so far that two of the landing boats were quite near the shore as the firing began while the third boat was still further out on the sea. Questioned concerning his position as seaman on board the Otter hunter and concerning his interest in the hunting profits, the witness Carl Conrad declared that he possessed a claim on the Schooner "Diana" which represented the worth of a fourth part of the ship, and that at the same time a fourth share of the hunting profits "Net" would be received by him, and on board he held the position of leader of the hunting.

Signed C. R. Conrad.

Signed Gebauer.

Statement of Isogai Keiji and Yamasaki Katsugoro late of American schooner and now under treatment at the Juizen Biyoin.

On the 22nd. April, we and 17 other Japanese called at the U.S. Consulate General in this port in order to sign a contract we made with capt Petersen of American Otter hunting schooner "Diana" to serve, 16 of us, as seamen, and 3 cooks. The rate of the monthly wages to be paid to us was Yen 14 for the 1st. class, Yen 13 for the 2nd. and Yen 10 for the 4th. Isogai was to receive the 4th. class pay and Yamasaki the 2nd. On the 27th. of the same month, the schooner with the capt. and foreigners Messrs. Conrad Smith and Von Well and 19 Japanese

on

on board sailed from Yokohama towards the North-eastern sea. On the 29th May we arrived at Teotan where we remained for 3 days in order to take on board a supply of water and certain articles. We then sailed for Iterrup which we reached on the same day. Here we commenced hunting otters and seals, and have been going about daily for about 2 months between Iterrup and Chrop. From thence we proceeded to Sunshikatan and after hunting there for 7 or 8 days, we returned to Iterrup thus completing our hunting for the season. During the season we caught 92 otters and 570 seals. We then sailed for Konadzmn and arrived there same day. From thence we proceeded on the

the 13th. Sept. to Saghlien in order to get a supply of water, and arrived there after a voyage of 3 or 4 days. We remained there for 7 or 8 days and on the 24th. Sept. we set sail towards the north-east, and arrived at an Island the name of which was unknown. Here we obtained a further supply of water and remained for 3 or 4 days. We then set sail for the north-east and after being at sea for 7 or 8 days heavy weather came on, and the schooner drifted about 3 or 4 days, when on the 25th. October an island came in sight which we learnt to be the Copper Island. This island is about 7 Ri in length and no house seemed to exist on the island. The schooner anchored at the distance

of

of about 10 Cho from the shore, and here the Capt. in order we understood to get a supply of water, lowered three boats provided with hunting guns, and boarded each by a foreigner and 5 seamen — the 1st boat manned by Mr. Conrad and 5 men, the 2nd. by Mr. Von Well and 5 men the 3rd. by Mr Smith and 5 men. These boats proceeded towards the Island. At about 9. A. M. when the 1st and 2nd. boats approached the island some parties began firing from a hidden place on shore, and Heigoro was shot in the breast and instantly died — falling into the sea. Kamekichi and Kumakichi also were killed by the shots, but they having fallen inside the boats,

they

they were properly buried on the 3rd day after the event. Isogai was shot in the back of his foot and the bullet remained in the wound Yamasak Katsugoro was also wounded in the foot Watanabe in the arm and messrs. Smith and von Well also received wounds. The boats then at once rowed back towards the schooner and all went on board her. After we boarded the schooner a shot fell near her. At about 11 A. M. the schooner left the spot and met an American sailing ships on a voyage direct to America. We then raised the American flag with a sign of distress, when the ship approached us. Our Capt. then had a interview with the capt.

of

of the ship and appears to have spoken to him about the outrage. The Capt. then seemed to have informed our capt. as to where a hospital could be found, and the schooner at once proceeded to Petrokaulovsk. We think our schooner did not usually hoist the American flag during the voyage. After a voyage of about 5 days we reached the port of Petrokaulovsk on the 30th Oct. There we understand the capt. called upon a Russian official of the locality and spoken to him about the outrage. A surgeon came on board daily at about 9 A.M. and attended to the wounded foreigners etc. The surgeon also removed the bullet from Iwagai's foot. We remained

in

in this port for about 9 days, but no body except the captain went on shore. The Russian officer came on board and took away 570 seals. We do not know whether our capt. made present of these to the Russian officer or they were seized by them, but at any rate we saw the Russian officers taking away the skins. We heard a rumour on board the schooner that the captain has made a representation repeatedly the outrage upon the crew at a Copper Island and requested the Russian officer to go with him to the island, but the latter declined on account of the bad and cold weather.

On the 11th November, we left Petropaulovsk for Yokohama

direct and reached here on the 26th. of the same month. Immediately on our arrival here, Watanabe, Isagai and Yamaski were sent to the Juizen Biyoin by Mr. J. A. Repnn No.235 Yokohama by whom we since understand, the hospital expenses have already been paid up to the 9th. January next Capt. Peteren and other foreigners occasionally pay us a visit in the hospital. Watanabe's wound having been slight, he has already recovered and we understand he left the hospital on the 15th. December instant.

During the voyage from Yokohama to Sterup one of the crew named Tsunekichi died of disease and was properly buried

buried in the sea on the same day.

21st. December 1881

Translation

Statement of four Japanese seamen lately belonging to the American schooner Diana.

On the 22nd. April last, 14 Japanese including ourselves called at the U.S. Consulate General in this port and signed a contract with capt. Petersen of American otter hunting schooner "Diana" to serve, on board her, 16 of us as seamen and 3 as cooks. The rate of the monthly salary to be paid to us was Yen 14 for the 1st. class, Yen 13 for the 2nd, Yen 11 for the 3rd. and Yen 10 for the fo Washizawa was to receive the 2nd class pay, Nihonzi the 4th, Nojima also the 4th, and Iwo, the 2nd. On the 27th of the same month

mouth at noon, the schooner with the captain, 3 foreigners and 19 Japanese on board sailed from Yokohama towards the north-eastern sea. At the time of leaving the harbour, the schooner hoisted the American flag at the mast, but lowered it again when out in the deep sea. On the 29th May we arrived at Seolan where we remained for three days in order to take on board a supply of water and other necessaries, and then left again for Iterrup. On arrival at the latter place we commenced hunting and we captured about 80 or 90 otters in the neighbourhood of Iterrup and the Kurile Islands, during the period from 1st or 2nd June to the 13th September. The hunting was done by 3 boats each

boarded

There again we remained for 3 days to take in wood and water and then left. Bad weather then came on, and whilst drifting about for about 8 days we hunted, when the weather was calm, and thus captured 570 or 580 seals found upon a small island in the neighbourhood. It was in a night time and the captain, three foreigners and a number of Japanese landed on the island, and killed the seals by striking with poles about 6 feet long. This island is – we think – at a distance of about 15 or 16 Ri from Copper Island. The bad weather continued and the schooner was drifting about, when at last Ie Copper Island came in sight

Boat

But the weather being still bad, and waves high, we could not approach the island for 14 or 16 days. At last on the 24th. October the wind having subsided, the schooner anchored at a spot about 7 cho off the coast. On the following day (the 25th.) at about 9 A.M. the Captain caused three boats to be lowered — in order — we understood — to proceed to the island to obtain a supply of drinking water. And these boats each manned by a foreigner and Japanese seamen, proceeded towards the island. When the schooner dropped anchor we observed a waterfall on the island, but neither fort, garrison, dwelling house, a flag nor a flag-staff

flag-staff were to be seen on it. As soon as the boats approached the island, some parties hidden from view began firing from the highland on the coast. The shots fell like a shower of rain and some seamen jumped into the water. At last the boats managed to row back to the schooner and the seamen who had jumped overboard also reached her. In the interval however 3 of the Japanese were killed and 3 others wounded, some foreigners were also wounded. After all were gotten on board, the schooner proceeded towards the sea and raised the American flag at half-mast. But even then the firing continued and 2 or 3 shots reached the schooner.

The

The shots were what are known as conical shaped bullets and are about the size of a thumb. At about 11.30 A. M. when the schooner was out in the sea, she met with an American ship navigating direct from America which despatched a boat to our schooner noticing the sign of distress apparently to make enquiries about it and then parted with us. The schooner then lowered the flag and sailed for Petropavlovski where we reached on the 30th. May. When entering the harbour, the schooner raised the flag at half-mast. There Mr. von Well landed in order we understand – to bring a surgeon, and brought 3 surgeons to the schooner. During our stay at this

port

leaving the port, the schooner hoisted the flag at the mast. We think however that the flag was not hoisted while we were at deep sea. On the 26th. Nov., we reached Yokohama on which occasion the schooner hoisted the American flag at half mast from the time she approached the lightship. On the 29th. Nov. we were paid off at the U. S. Consulate General and were then dismissed from the service. Since that date we have not seen either the captain or other foreigners (of the "Diana"). Wakizawa was formerly employed by foreigners in otter hunting ships; but as to the other three of us this was the first time we were engaged in

Translation

Further statement of 2 Japanese seamen lately belonging to the American schooner "Diana" and now under medical treatment at the Juzen Byoin Yokohama.

We briefly replied to all your questions on the 21st instant, but having since recalled to our mind certain facts relating to the same event, we made a further statement as follows:— The other points are as stated the other day.

The schooner "Diana" left Yokohama on the 22nd April. and when leaving the harbour she hoisted the American flag. When out in the deep sea, it was taken down.

On the 29th May the schooner reached Scotan and after taking in a supply of drinking water left for Sterrup. In the neighborhood of the last named place and the Kurile Islands, we captured 80 or 90 otters between the begining of June and 13th of September.

At an island on the way to Sanshikotan, the Capt. took from the Islanders 53 or 54 fox skins in exchange for food and clothing which the Capt. gave them.

In

In 3 or 4 days after leaving r Konadzuru, the schooner reached the Saghalien Islands where we remained for 7 or 8 days. We then sailed — and arrived at an island the name of which was unknown. There we remained for about 3 days in order to take in r wood and water, after which we left again. Bad weather then came on, and whilst drifting about for about 8 days, we hunted when the weather was calm and thus captured 570 or 580 seals upon a small islands This island is-we think- in a distance of about 15 or 16 Ri from the Copper Island. The bad weather still continued and we could not approach the Copper Island for 14 or 15 days, during which time the schooner was floating about.

The Copper Island was about 7 Ri in length neither house, fort, Russian r flag nor flag staff were seen on the Island.

It was at about 9 a.m. on the 25th October that we were fired upon from the Copper Island.

As to the subsequent events we do not

not know any thing for certain, because we were confined in bed on board the schooner on account of the wounds we sustained, and what we do know were only rumours current on board the ship.

Isogai Keiji,

Yamazaki Katsugoro.

Particulars obtained from the U. S. Consulate General regarding the "Diana"

1st Built	1881
2d Bill of Sale	April 21, 1881
3rd Consideration	$4 000.
4th Tonnage	75 tons
5th Acknowledgment of Bill of Sale	April 21, 1881
6th Certificate of ownership,	April 25, 1881
7th Shipment of crew	April 25, 1881
8th Clearance	April 25, 1881

9th Heading of shipping articles:

"From the Port of Kanagawa Japan to the north Pacific ocean, Behring, r China and Japan Seas as the master may direct for hunting and fishing for a r voyage not to exceed 8 calendar months unless sooner discharged."

List of the crew of the Schooner "Diana" shipped before the U.S. Consul General at Kanagawa April 25th 1881.

L. H. Peterson	Master
C. R. Conrad	Mate
F. Von Well	Hunter
W. Smith	Hunter
Heikichi	Japanese
Hirai	"
Watanabe	"
Kamekichi	"
Kinjiro	"
Sato	"
Toreda	"
Minamoto	"
Muramachi	"
Makichi	"
Kanjiro	"
Toragoro	"
Kamekichi	"
Katsujiro	"
Girokichi	"
Shojiro	"
Sentaro	"
Kaeji	"
Kumakichi	"

No 1659.

Irving

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY
5
1883
RECEIVED

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 4th April 1883.

Mr Bingham
to the
Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject.

A Copy of the Cipher of the Department of State and a Copy of the Holocryptic Code received and receipt for the same enclosed to the Hon. Secretary of State.

No 1659.

United States Legation
Tokei Japan 4th April 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I beg leave to acknowledge the delivery to me by Mr Goward of a copy of the cipher of the Department of State No 25. also a copy of the Holocryptic Code No 25 to be used by me when corresponding confidentially with the Department.

I have the honor to enclose a receipt signed by me in Duplicate, the second of which I will

transmit by next mail.

Your Instruction No 714, will in all respects be strictly followed by me in the use, Safe Keeping, and disposition of the documents specified therein.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Mc. C. Singhem

No 1660

United States Legation

Tokei, Japan, April 4, 1883

Mr. Bingham

to the

Honorable Secretary of State.

Subject

Mr. Bingham forwards Statement of Account for the quarter ended March 31, 1883.

Enclosures

Statement of Account, Abstract and sundry vouchers.

No. 1660.

United States Legation,
Tokei, Japan, April 4, 1888.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to enclose Statement of my account for salary and contingent expenses for the first quarter of the current year. A reference to my account and vouchers will show that I credit the government with £616-9-2 drawn for on the 31st ultimo on Morton Rose and Co. on account of salary for said quarter, for which I

received the equivalent of $3000.00
United States Gold and no more;
and that I also credit the govern-
ment with £41-1-11 drawn per on
account of contingencies for said
quarter for which I received the
equivalent of $200.00 United States
Gold and no more, as per certi-
2/166 ficate enclosed of the Oriental Bank
Corporation, Yokohama. I also credit
the Government with two dollars and
ninety four cents, mexicans ($2.94)
equal to two dollars and seventy
cents ($2.70) United States Gold on
account of error in my account of
30. September 1882 as pointed out in
my No. 1635 dated the 16th of February
last which I had the honor to address to
you in explanation of said last mention

account. I also credit the Government with $11.20 United States Gold balance remaining in my hands on account of contingencies as shown by my account for the quarter ending the 31st ult. of Dec. 1882, making the total credit of the government in said account for the first quarter of the current year ended the 31st ultimo $3218.90 United States Gold.

I debit the Government in Enclosed account as per vouchers as follows: With amount of my salary for first quarter 1883, $3000 United States Gold; and with amount expended for contingencies as per vouchers from Dec. 31, 1882 to the 31st of March 1883, $84.47 United States gold: Total debit. $3084.47 U. S. Gold,

leaving balance in my hands of $129.43/100 United States gold to be accounted for by me at the close of the current quarter.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Jno A Bingham

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1883
RECEIVED

No. 1

M. of Legation.

Tokio. April 5th 1883.

Mr. Gustavus Goward
Secretary of Legation,
To the Department of State

Subject.

Delay of the S.S. Gaelic in reaching Yokohama.

Delivery to Minister Bingham of the despatches with which Mr. was entrusted.

U. S. Legation,
Tokio. April 5th 1883.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The steamship Gaelic on which I was a passenger left San Francisco, March 6th 1883.

She was delayed on her passage by many severe gales and reached the port of Yokohama late on the fourth instant.

Yesterday I proceeded to Tokio and delivered to Mr. Bingham at the Legation, the despatches and package with which I was entrusted all in good condition.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
Gustavus Goward
Secretary of Legation.

No. 1661. Tokei. Japan April 14th 1883

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY
24
1883
RECEIVED

Hon. John A. Bingham
U. S. E. & M. P.
at Tokio. Japan

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Statement of salary account and contingent expenses for the first quarter of the year 1883.

No. 1661. U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan, April 14th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my No. 1660, I have the honor to enclose herewith a duplicate statement of my account for salary & Contingent expenses for the first (1st) quarter of the current year together with duplicate vouchers thereof.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your Obedient Servant.

Mc. A. Bingham

Enclosures.

Statement of Account with Voucher for salary. & Contingent Expenses Account with five sub vouchers.

Delivering

No. 1662. Tokei Japan. April 14th 1883.

Hon. John A. Bingham

M.S. E.E. & M.P.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 24 1883
RECEIVED

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Arrival of Mr. Edwin Smith U.S Coast survey & Mr. A.S. Prichett from Australia Free passage of their effects at Yokohama Customs.

Permit to reside in any part of the Empire obtained for them.

No. 1662. U. S. Legation,

Tokei, Japan April 14th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I beg leave to acquaint you that Mr. Edwin Smith, U. S. Coast Survey, and also Mr. H. S. Pritchett arrived here on the 9th instant from Australia whither they had been sent to make observations of the recent transit of Venus, and also to make experiments at various points in the East to determine the force of gravity.

Having been notified of their coming I addressed a note to His Imperial Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs requesting that their baggage and boxes

of

of instruments, the property of the United States might by an Imperial order be passed unopened and free of charges by the Customs officers; and that these gentlemen might be accorded the freedom of the Empire during their sojourn here to facilitate the further prosecution of their experiments.

It gives me much pleasure to report that these requests were promptly complied with.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Wm. H. Seward

No. 1663. Tokei, Japan April 14th 1883.

Hon John A. Bingham.

U. S. E. & M. P.

The Secretary of State

Subject.

Acknowledgement of the receipt of Instructions 717, 718 (with Enclosures) and 719.

No. 1663. U.S. Legation,

Tokei Japan April 14th 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington. D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Instructions numbered respectively. 717, 718 (with enclosures) and 719.

I have the honor to be. Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Mc A Burlingame

Ch by mot file

PRINTED FOR [illegible] 1883

Wing

No. 1664. U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan, April 14th 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE MAY 24 1883 RECEIVED

Hon. John A. Bingham

U. S. E. E. & M. P.

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Interview with Mr. Inouye Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs relative to the appointment Hon. L. H. Foote, E. E. & M. P. to Corea.

Synopsis.

Prompt action of the United States in the ratification of the Treaty with Corea & appointment of a Minister gives great satisfaction to the Japanese Government Considered as an act of friendship towards Japan.

Japan as well as Corea. Another evidence of the policy of justice manifested so often by the U. S. towards the Eastern States of Asia. The action of our government rightly interpreted.

No. 1664.

U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan April 14th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

Referring to Instruction no. 719 of date the 7th ultimo in which you were pleased to acquaint me of the appointment of Mr. Foote to be Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the U.S. to Corea, I beg leave to say that on the 6th instant and before the receipt of your instruction Mr. Inouye, His Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs having sent me a copy of a telegram stating that Mr. Foote had sailed from San Francisco on the 29th ultimo for Corea, I called on the Minister to thank him for the telegram where

he

he took occasion to say that this action of our government in ratifying so promptly its Treaty with Corea and accred-iting a Minister to that Kingdom gave great satisfaction to His Imperial Japan-anese Majesty's Government and was ac-cepted as another evidence of the policy of justice so often manifested by the United States towards the Eastern States of Asia. He also said that it was considered an act of friendship towards Japan as well as Corea. I but anticipated your instruction in assuring the Minister that he interpreted aright the purposes of our government in the action it had taken to promote the interests of both countries and that our gov-ernment is desirous to draw into lasting friendly relations with the

United

United States all the countries
of the East.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your Obedient Servant.

Wm. A. Bringhurst

No. 1665.

U. S. Legation.

Tokei. Japan. April 17th. 1883.

Hon. John A. Bingham.

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Enclosure of duplicate receipt for Department Cipher.

No. 1663. U. S. Legation,

Tokei, Japan, April 17th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my no. 1659 with which I had the honor to enclose a receipt for the Department Cipher, etc. I now beg leave to enclose herewith a duplicate of said receipt.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure.

Receipt for Cipher.

File
Mr. Whitney has always been commissioned

Mr Wing

No. 1666.

U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan April 17th 1883.

Hon. John A. Bingham.

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

The appointment of Mr. Whitney as Interpreter to this Legation.

Synopsis.

Reiteration of former recommendation. Neither Mr. Whitney nor any foreigner in Japan understands thoroughly the Japanese language. Case of Mr. Thompson the former Interpreter as an illustration. Opinion of Mr. Thompson in re Mr. Whitney.

No better person known. Submitted in conformity to No 712. instructions of the Department, suggesting a recommendation.

a

No. 1666. U.S. Legation,

Tokei Japan. 17 April 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Replying to instructions no. 717 of date the 28th of February last in relation to my recommendation under date 25th of January last of Dr. Willis N. Whitney for appointment to the office of Interpreter to this legation, I beg leave most respectfully to refer to my further recommendation of that gentleman for that appointment communicated in my No. 1633 of date the 14th ultimo wherein I stated that Mr. Whitney's "former residence in this city with his father enabled

enabled him to acquire a knowledge of the Japanese language which he reads, writes, and speaks. It cannot be said of Mr. Whitney that he thoroughly understands the Japanese language though he resided for four years here (previous to his recent return from the United States) and for a considerable time was the principal of a school of Japanese. Neither in my opinion can it be said of any foreigner in Japan that he has a thorough knowledge of the language of this people. Mr. Thompson who was interpreter to the Legation for seven years upon my recommendation and who resigned the position greatly against my wishes and only because his other duties constrained him to do so, is

one

one of the foremost of foreign Japanese scholars after eighteen years study of the language and yet as I have said in a former despatch he still relies at times upon his native instructor.

I have conferred with Mr. Thompson in regard to Mr. Whitney and he gives it as his opinion that Mr. Whitney if appointed will prove an efficient and satisfactory interpreter.

I do not know of any person whose services we can possibly obtain as interpreter who is better qualified or more trustworthy in every respect.

It is certainly desirable that our interpreter should be a citizen of the United States and competent for the duties of the office.

I respectfully submit the foregoing.

-going in conformity to instruction
No. 712 of date the 12th of February
last wherein you were pleased
to say "the Department would be"
"glad to receive from ~~in~~ you (me) a"
"recommendation of a suitable per-"
"-son for appointment as Interpreter"
"to your (this) Legation."

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Wm A Bingham

Acknowledged approved May 26 1883 Cr'ld

No. 1667.

U. S. Legation.

Tokei. Japan April 17th 1883.

Hon. John A. Bingham

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

The burning test at 115° Fahrenheit as the standard for Kerosene oil.

Synopsis.

Enclosed of note to the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, showing that the enforcement of the orders relative to the test standard for kerosene has been indefinitely postponed by the action of the Japanese Government

All important to the trade & the people that a standard test should be declared at an early day. Under Consideration by the Japanese Gov't.

115° Fahrenheit burning test advised.

Suggestion that the certificates stamped upon the cases in the U.S. be adopted as the fire test..

No. 1667. U. S. Legation,

Tokei, Japan. 17 April 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State,

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

In my no 1647, of date the 21st ultimo in relation to the suspension of Notification no. 6. issued by this government in February last, I now have the honor to acquaint you that I have this day addressed a note to His Excellency Mr. Inouye, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, (a copy of which is herewith enclosed,) calling his attention to the fact that this order of suspension issued on the 16th ultimo, a copy of which was transmitted with my no. 1647, indefinitely postpones the enforcement not only of order no. 6. but also of order

order no. 44 issued in August 1882
which last fixed the standard of
kerosene oil for illuminating purposes
in Japan at 115° Fahrenheit burning
test.

You will please observe that I fur-
-ther invite Mr. Inouye's attention to the
consideration that it is important to
the trade in kerosene and essential
to the interests of this people to whom
the use of kerosine may be said to be
a necessity that all uncertainty touch-
-ing the standard test of the oil import-
-ed into Japan and the mode of determ-
-ining that test should be declared
at an early day.

The subject has been for some
time past and still is under consid-
-eration by this government. I have
ventured

ventured to repeat to the Minister my former suggestions that 115° Fahrenheit burning test is as safe for this climate as any kerosene in the general market of the world and also that the certificates stamped upon the cases imported, by the official inspectors of the New York Produce Exchange should be held to be the final test of the oil thus certified subject however if deemed needful to further test examination in Japan by Japanese officials.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Wm A. Kinghorne

Copy Enclosure to No 1667

No 1296. U.S. Legation.

Tokei Japan. 17th April 1883.

His Excellency,

Inouye Kaoru.

H.I.J. Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note of the 14th ultimo wherein, referring to our several conversations regarding the recent order No. 6, fixing a new standard for kerosene oil imported into Japan, you acquaint me that you have "communicated to the proper department the necessity of postponing the date of its enforcement until further notice."

I have also received a copy of the official notice issued on the 16th ultimo that "the Kerosene oil regulations

"regulations promulgated by notifications"
" No. 44. published in August 1882, and "
"No 6 in February of this year (1883) will not "
" be enforced until further notice."

I beg leave to thank you for your ef-
-ficient and timely intervention in this
matter to prevent the immediate en-
-forcement of said order No. 6.

I also beg leave to respectfully sug-
-gest that it is all important to the trade
in Kerosene oil between the United
States and Japan that the now un-
-settled state of the question as to the
test standard to be required by your
government should be terminated at
an early day.

Permit me to repeat the hope hither-
-to expressed by me that the safe
and satisfactory standard of kerosine
for

for illuminating purposes which it pleased Your Excellency's to establish in 1881 at 115° Fahrenheit burning test may again and at an early day be declared by His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government to be the fixed standard.

At present and until further and final action is taken by Your Government the trade in Kerosine so essential to the interests of Japan is uncertain, there being at present no fixed standard in Japan whatever, inasmuch as the notification of the 16th ultimo suspended indefinitely both the notification No. 44 of August 1882, and notification no. 6 of February last.

It is equally important to this trade that

that the mode and place of determining whatever test standard may be finally adopted by Your Excellency's Government should be speedily and specifically declared.

On this last question as to the mode of determining the test I respectfully invite your attention to the suggestion which I had the honor to make to you in my No. 1717 of the 28th of March 1882 and also in my note No. 1948 of date the 24th of February last, namely that cases of Kerosene oil certified and stamped by an official inspector of the New York Produce Exchange should be held to be of the fire test thus certified thereon, subject however if deemed needful to further examination by your own officials.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration,

Wm. H. Trescott

Mailing

No. 1668.

U. S. Legation,

Tokei Japan. 17th April 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY
24
1883
RECEIVED

Hon. John A. Bingham

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Dr. Stewart Eldridge. U. S. Citizen on Mr. Bingham's recommendation, appointed by the Japanese Government, Surgeon & Instructor at the Japanese Government Hospital, Yokohama.

No. 1668. U.S. Legation,

Tokei. Japan. 17 April 1883.

Hon. Fred'k. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that upon my recommendation Dr. Stewart Eldridge M.D. a citizen of the United States residing in Japan has by this government been appointed to be Surgeon and instructor in the Japanese Government Hospital at Yokohama.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Wilcox
to
McCauley

No. 1669.

U. S. Legation

Tokei, Japan. April 18th 1883.

Mr. Bingham.

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Annual Trade Return of Japan.

Index Room.

No 1669. U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan 18th April 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State

Washington, D. C.,

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to transmit for your information an official copy of the annual return of the foreign trade of the Empire of Japan for the year 1882.

A reference to page one (1) of the return will show the total value of imported commodities into Japan during the year to have been 29,168,040.92 gold yen, and the total amount of customs duties thereon to have been 1.387.130.96/00 gold yen. It further appears that the total value of commodities

-modities exported during the year was 37.235.755.⁰⁄₀₀ gold yen.

The tables on the same page show the value of the imports from Great Britain for the year to have been ~~of~~ ~~in~~ ~~in~~ in gold yen ~~in~~ 13.956.048.⁶⁹⁄₀₀; and the exports to Great Britain ~~of~~ the value of 4.981.546.⁰⁄₀₀ gold yen: and that the imports from the United States amounted in value in gold yen to 3.106.758.³⁶⁄₀₀; and the exports thereto to the value in gold yen of 14.253.291.⁹³⁄₀₀.

Pages 29 & 30 set forth tables of the exports & imports of Specie & bullion during the year to & from the several foreign countries in treaty relations with Japan.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your Obe-dient Servant,

Wm. C. Knight

Enclosure. accompanying Annual Return for 1882

No. 1670.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY
24
1883
RECEIVED

U. S. Legation,
Tokei Japan April 20th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of instructions numbered respectively 720, 721, 722, 723. 724, 725, 726. and 727 with enclosures, and Circular.

No. 670. U. S Legation.

Tokei. Japan April 20th 83.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of instructions numbered respectively 720. 721. 722. 723, 724. 725. 726 and 727 with inclosures; also Department's circular marked "Separate" of date Feby 21.st 1883 in relation to the coinage &c. of Japan for the year 1882. in response to certain interrogatories of the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

M.c A. Bingham

Ack. by Mr. Yates

PRINTED.
FOR ... USE.
1883

Wing

No. 167. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan. April 20th/83.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY
24
1883
RECEIVED

Mr. Bingham.

To.

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Letter of Mr. Bingham to the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs relative to the delivery of the U. S. Treasury draft for the reimbursement of the "Simonoseki" indemnity.

Synopsis.

Receipt of draft. Letter to Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs acquainting him of the facts, and desiring an answer as to the manner of its delivery. The satisfaction of the President expressed in its

ito repayment, together with the object of so doing.

Answer from Mr. Inouye not yet received.

No doubt but that the draft will be gratefully accepted.

No. 1671. U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan. April 20th/83.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

In accordance with your instruction No. 725, dated March 21st last which reached me on yesterday together with the enclosures therein mentioned and especially the Draft on the Treasury of the United States for the sum of Seven Hundred and Eighty-Five Thousand dollars and Eighty Seven cents ($785000 87/100) payable to your order, and by you endorsed to my order, I have officially addressed to His Excellency Mr. Inouye, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's

Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs
a note dated the 19th instant (a copy
of which is enclosed herewith) acquaint-
-ing him of the receipt of the Draft
and of my desire to deliver it in
person and to endorse it to such
officer of His Majesty's Government
as he may name. You will please
observe that I have fully set forth
in my note to Mr. Mouge the object of
the payment of this sum to his gov-
-ernment and have also expressed the
President's satisfaction in being enabled
by the act of Congress to refund this
money heretofore paid by Japan to our
Government in pursuance of the stipu-
-lations of the Simonoseki indemnity
Convention of 1864.

I have not yet received any

official

official reply from Mr. Inouye. I call-
-ed at his house and office on yes-
-terday with the Draft but he was not
at home. He has to-day sent his
messenger to explain his absence
and to assure me of his desire to
respond to my dispatch. I would
await his reply but as the mail
for America is expected to close to-morrow
I think it my duty to prepare and
make this report at once.

I have no doubt the draft will
be gratefully accepted and acknowl-
-edged by this Government.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Wm. A. Simpson

Enclosure.

Letter to Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Enclosure to No. 1671

Copy.

No 1998. United States Legation

Tokei Japan 19th April 1883.

His Excellency

Inouye Kaoru,

His Imperial Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Sir:

It gives me great pleasure to acquaint Your Excellency that I am this morning in the receipt of an instruction from my Government enclosing a draft dated March 21st 1883. on the Treasury of the United States, Washington, D.C. payable to the order of the Honorable, the Secretary of State of the United States of America and by the Honorable Secretary of State endorsed to my order calling

for the sum of Seven Hundred and Eighty Five Thousand dollars and Eighty-Seven Cents ($785,000 87/100) which sum I am instructed to pay to the Government of His Imperial Japanese Majesty in fulfillment of the act of Congress of the 22nd of February A.D. 1883. an official Copy of which act of Congress I have the honor to enclose herewith) which provides for the reimbursement of the amount received from Your Government by that of the United States in pursuance of the stipulations of the Convention concluded with Japan on the 22nd October 1864. known as the "Simonoseki" indemnity Convention.

It is made my agreable duty

under my instruction to express to
Your Excellency the satisfaction felt
by the President that he is enabled
by this action of Congress to carry
out the desire long entertained by
the Government of the United
States to return this money and
that the President does not doubt
it will be accepted by Your Excell-
-ency's Government as an additional
evidence of the friendly interest of
the government of the United Sta-
tes in everything that concerns
the welfare and progress of the
people and Government of Japan.

I shall wait upon Your
Excellency in person this day
prepared to deliver and duly
endorse the said draft of my

Government in such manner as it may please you to designate.

I beg leave to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) John A. Bingham

Asked Telegram was not sent upon enquiry 1883

S

Wing

No. 1672.

U. S. Legation,
Tokei Japan April 20th 1883.

Hon. Bingham,

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Non-Receipt of Telegram March 10th 1883.
Despatches sent by Open mail?

Synopsis.

Telegram never reached the Legation.
Enquiry made at the Telegraph Office.
Answer of the Chief Clerk in charge to
the effect that none had been received.
Despatch pouches desirable and
needful. All the instructions by last
mail

mail including drafts for $785.000.00
came by open mail.

No. 1672 U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan April 20th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I beg leave to acquaint you that a telegram mentioned in your instruction No. 720 dated the 10th ultimo enquiring if U. S. Treasury Warrant on Assistant Treasurer in New York was worth face value in Japan never reached me.

Immediately on receipt of this instruction I addressed a note to the Director of the Central Telegraph Office here requesting to be informed whether any telegram from Washington to my address was received at that office about the

the 10th of March last, and if so to whom the same was delivered and when? Herewith I enclose the answer of the Director to the effect that no tele-gram from Washington addressed to me was received about the 10th of March last.

Allow me to say in this connection that it is very desirable and it seems to me needful, that our official cor-respondence should, when there are several and important communications, be forwarded in closed official pouches. All the instructions (except your no 722 per favor of Mr. Foote) per last mail, the receipt of which is acknowledged in my no 1670 of cur-rent date, came in the open mail including the draft for £785000 87/00.

The

The post office at Yokohama re-
-ceives and distributes the mails
for all the East from the United
States, and very largely the mails
from Europe. which makes it some-
-what difficult, however careful
the managers are, to prevent a
miscarriage of letters sent in
the open mail.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Wm A. Simpson

Enclosure.

Memorandum to J. A. Bingham, Date. 19th April 1883.

Dear Sir.

I did not receive your telegram
from Washington last month about the
10th.

Yours Respectfully,
Clerk in charge.
Shonoya.

No. 1673.

U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan April 20th 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 24 1883
RECEIVED

Mr. Bingham

To

The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Arrival of Mr. Foote.

Synopsis.

Arrival yesterday at Yokohama

Instruction 722 forwarded to the Legation by Mr. Goward.

Courtesies to be extended to Mr & Mrs Foote.

Suggestion that a naval vessel be kept for sometime at an open port in Corea.

No. 1673. U. S. Legation.

Tokei. April 20th 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:

It gives me pleasure to inform you of the safe arrival on yesterday in Yokohama of Mr. Foote en route to his post in Corea as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States.

Your instruction no. 722 which he brought hither, he sent to me this morning through Mr. Coward. On to-morrow Mr. & Mrs. Foote will be with us at our table.

I shall be pleased to extend to Mr. Foote & Mrs. Foote every possible

-ble courtesy and also to confer with Mr. Foote and aid him to the extent of my power in the accomplishment of his important mission.

I beg leave to suggest that an American naval vessel should be stationed permanently for the time being in an open port of Corea. I have no doubt that the Government of Corea will gladly hail our flag and representative; but I am sure <u>that</u> Government will feel greater security and be in fact abler to maintain its authority in our interests as well as its own by the mere presence in Corean waters of an American man of war.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

Wm A. Pickham

Wrs 2 2

Writing

No. 1674.

U. S. Legation,

Tokei, Japan, May 8th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Acceptance of and entrance upon duty of Mr. Willis R. Whitney as Interpreter to the U. S. Legation Tokei Japan.

No. 1674.

U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan, May 8th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

It gives me pleasure to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of Instruction No. 728 of date March 26th last, together with the commission of Mr. Willie N. Whitney to be Interpreter to this Legation.

I have delivered to Mr. Whitney his commission, who has accepted the same and has entered upon duty, having duly qualified by taking the official oath prescribed by law which oath subscribed by him and certified

-fied by Mr. Goward I beg leave
to enclose herewith -

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Wm. A. Keighem

Enclosure.

Oath of Mr. Whitney.

Enclosure to Mr. Bingham's No. 1674.

Legation of the United States

Tokei, Japan May 7th 1883.

I, Willis Norton Whitney, a native of New Jersey and a citizen thereof and of the United States of America having been duly appointed and commissioned by the President of the United States of America to be Interpreter to the Legation of the United States in Japan, do hereby accept said appointment; and I do solemnly swear that I have never voluntarily borne arms against the United States since I have been a citizen thereof; that I have voluntarily given no aid, countenance, counsel, or encouragement to persons engaged in armed hostility thereto; that I have neither sought nor accepted nor

attempted

attempted to exercise the functions of any office whatever under any authority or pretended authority in hostility to the United States; that I have not yielded a voluntary support to any pretended government, authority, power, or constitution within the United States, hostile or inimical thereto. And I do further swear that, to the best of my knowledge and ability, I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and

and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter: So help me God.

Willis Norton Whitney

Interpreter to the Legation

of the United States in Japan.

Sworn to & subscribed before me

this seventh day of May

1883.

Gustavus Goward

Secretary of Legation

and ex-officio Notary Public.

Tokei, Japan. May 7th 1883.

Reports & Returns from Consuls in Japan, 1883

Dispatch

No. 1675.

U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan. May 8th 1883

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Monthly returns for January & February of the foreign trade in Japan.

No. 1675. U. S. Legation,

Tokei Japan. May 8th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to enclose for your information the monthly returns in duplicate of the foreign trade of the Empire of Japan for the months of January and February of the current year.

It appears that the total value in gold yen of the exports of commodities for the month of January amounted to ¥ 1,801,143. ⁰⁰ and the total value of the imports for that month to gold

gold yen 1.540.773, and that the total value in gold yen of the exports for February amounted to 1.931.041.50 and the total value in gold yen for the latter month of imports to x 1.499.977.00, showing an excess of exports over imports for the two months to the amount of 691.432.00 yen in round numbers.

A reference to the table on page 3 of each of these returns will show the quantity and value of specie and bullion exported from & imported into the several open ports of Japan in said months of January & February, respectively.

I also transmit herewith duplicate copies of the annual return of foreign trade of Japan for the year 1882 for the information of the Treasury Department.

2/2

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
Wm. A. Seward

Enclosures under separate covers} returns as aforesaid}

Maps & reports to
Mar. Dept. for Signal Office
June 9 1883
Entered

No. 1676.

U. S. Legation.
Tokei Japan. May 8th 1883.

Mr. Bingham
To the Secretary of State.

Subject.
The enclosure of Meteorological Reports.

No. 1676. U. S. Legation,

Tokei, Japan May 8th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

I beg leave to enclose herewith for the information of our Signal Service Monthly and daily reports with weather maps issued by the Imperial Meteorological Observatory, Tokei, Japan and by several meteorological stations of the Empire.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno A. Kasson

Enclosure accompanying under separate cover 98 weather maps & 22 Meteorological reports.

Acknowledged approved June 9, 1883 C.H.D.

Mldag

U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan May 9th 1883.

Mr. Howard.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Delivery of the U. S. Treaty with Corea to Mr. Bingham.

Synopsis.

Instructions of the Department quoted.

" of Mr. Bingham suggested by Mr. Howard straighten out matters.

Instructions of Mr. Bingham given.

Treaty delivered to Mr. Bingham accompanied by letter from Mr. Howard for purpose of record. Receipt of Mr. Bingham for Treaty.

U. S. Legation
Tokio Japan. May 9th 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State.
Washington D. C.

Sir:

Under date of February 10th 1883 the following instructions were given to me by you:—

"The recently signed treaty between
" the United States and Corea having
" been ratified by the President, the
" exchange copy thereof for delivery
" to the Government of Chosen is
" now ready and will be committed
" to your charge. This you will however deposit
" in a place of security at the lega-
" -tion at Tokio, where it will re-
" -main until you are directed by
the

" the Department, either by instruction
" or telegram, to otherwise dispose of it.
" You will be particular to keep the
" treaty in a place of safety and per-
" -mit no one to handle or see it."

In a previous despatch I informed you of my safe arrival with the treaty in Japan, where at the legation I deposited the sealed package in a place of security.

After the arrival of Mr. Foote, no instruction or telegram having meanwhile been sent me, I suggested to Mr. Bingham the propriety of my receiving an instruction from him as my superior with full powers, to deliver the said treaty to him upon the basis of Instruction No. 122. by you made to Mr. Bingham.

This

This course be pursued as will be seen by enclosure No. 1. herewith.

Accordingly I delivered to him the Treaty with Corea accompanied by a letter for purpose of record, a copy of which is herewith enclosed (No 2) The receipt or answer to my letter is also enclosed herewith. (no. 3)

By reason of certain newspaper reports and the fact of my being entrusted with the Treaty, I desire to call attention to the fact that the sealed package containing the treaty was not opened until some days following Mr. Foote's arrival and then in the presence of Mr. Bingham. Such I have deemed it necessary to mention in view of the peculiarity of my instructions.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Gustavus Goward

Secretary of Legation.

Enclosures.

2. Mr. Goward to Mr. Bingham

April 27th 1883.

1. Mr. Bingham to Mr. Goward.

" April 27th 1883

3. Mr. Bingham to Mr. Goward.

April 28th 1883.

Enclosure No 1. to Mr. Foward's Despatch.

No. 1349.

Legation of the United States,

Tokei, Japan.

April 27th — 1883.

Gustavus Doward, Esqre

Secretary of the United States Legation.

Tokei, Japan.

Sir:

Referring to Department Instruction No. 722 addressed to me under date the 17th ultimo. I note that it directs among other things that I should entrust to Mr. Foote the Treaty with Corea as he is authorized to exchange the ratifications; from which I infer that the exchange copy thereof committed to you by the Department is the copy which I am directed as above to entrust to Mr. Foote.

I

I will thank you therefore to have
the same to me that I may comply w
said Instruction.

I am, Sir.

Your Obedient Servant,

Mc. A. Bingham

Enclosure No. 2. to Mr. Coward's Despatch

Copy

U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan April 27th 1883

Hon. John A. Bingham

&c &c. &c.

Tokei. Japan.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction of this date, wherein you note that you are requested by the Department Instruction No. 722. to entrust to Mr. Foote. the Treaty with Corea, the exchange copy whereof your wifer was committed to my charge for transmission to this country. You also at my suggestion call upon me to hand to you the said Treaty.

In compliance with your request I have

this

this day in your presence opened the
sealed package containing the Treaty
with Corea and the Senate resolution
and delivered the same to you.

In view of the peculiarity of my in-
structions, I would thank you for
an acknowledgment of the receipt by
me of the said Treaty.

I have, etc.,

Gustavus Goward.

Secretary of Legation

Enclosure No 3. to Mr. Goward's Dispatch.

No. 1350.

Legation of the United States,

Tokei, Japan.

April 28th 1883.

Gustavus Goward Esqre

Secretary of the Legation of the United States in Japan.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of the exchange copy of the Treaty with Corea and of the Senate resolution explanatory thereof which you delivered to me in accordance with the instruction in my note to you of date the 27th instant.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Mc A. Pruyn

Asked by me to file

Mailing

No. 1678.

U.S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan May 9th 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 7 1883
RECEIVED

Mr. Bingham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt from Mr. Seward of the ratification copy of the Treaty with Corea.
Also, receipt from Mr. Foote of a copy of his instructions and of the President's reply to the King of Corea.
Mr. Bingham incloses in Mr. Foote's despatch the missing copy of the Treaty and also the Treaty resolutions sent therewith.

No. 168. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan. May 9th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In accordance with your instruction to me No. 722, I obtained from Mr. Goward the ratification copy of the Treaty with Corea together with the resolution of the Senate interpreting the article thereof relating to vessels proceeding from one open port to another in that Kingdom which copy and resolution I immediately placed in the hands of Mr. Foote.

Herewith I beg leave to enclose a copy of my note to Mr. Goward

dated

1/2 dated the 27th ultimo and also a copy of his reply thereto of date the 27th ultimo.

I beg leave further to acquaint you that in pursuance of your instruction I received from Mr. Foote confidentially a copy of his instructions and also a copy of the President's reply to the King of Corea.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno. A Bingham

2. Enclosures

Mr. Bingham to Mr. Seward. April 27th/1863.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Bingham " " "

Enclose to Despatch. No. 1678.

Copy.

No. 1349. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan April 27th 1883.

Gustavus Goward Esq.

Secretary of the United States Le-
-gation, Tokei, Japan.

Sir:

Referring to Department In-
-struction No. 722 addressed to me under
date the 17th ultimo I note that it
directs among other things that I
should entrust to Mr. Foote, the Treaty
with Corea as he is authorized to
exchange the ratifications; from which
I infer that the exchange copy thereof
committed to you by the Department
is the copy which I am directed as
above to entrust to Mr. Foote.

I

I will thank you therefore to hand the same to me that I may comply with said instruction.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) Jno. A. Bingham.

Copy

U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan April 27th 1883

Hon. John A. Bingham.

Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction of this date, wherein you note that you are requested by the Department Instruction No. 722 to

to entrust to Mr. Foote, the Treaty with Corea, the exchange copy whereof you infer was committed to my charge for transmission to this country. You also at my suggestion call upon me to hand to you the said Treaty.

In compliance with your request I have this day in your presence opened the sealed package containing the Treaty & senate resolution and delivered the same to you.

In view of the peculiarity of my instructions I would thank you for an acknowledgement of the receipt from me of the said Treaty.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your Obedient Servant.

Gustavus Goward

Secretary of Legation

No. 1.

Enclosure to Mr. Bingham's No. 1677.

Copy.

Translation

No. 12.

Foreign Office. Tokio.
The 22d the 4th month
the 16th year Meiji.

His Excellency.

John A. Bingham,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the U. S. A.

Sir:

I have the hour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note dated April 19th 1883. acquainting me that you are in receipt of an instruction from Your Excellency's Government enclosing a draft, dated March 21st 1883. on the Treasury of the United States, Washington, D. C. payable to the order of the Honorable the Secretary of State

of

of the United States of America, endorsed to Your Excellency's order, calling for the sum of Seven Hundred and Eighty Five Thousand Dollars and Eighty-Seven cents ($785000 87/100) which sum Your Excellency is instructed to pay to the Imperial Government in fulfillment of the Act of Congress of the 22nd of February 1883. a copy of which was found enclosed therein and Your Excellency adds that you are prepared to deliver and duly endorse the said draft to the Imperial Government in such manner as I may wish to designate.

Your Excellency is pleased in addition to express the satisfaction felt by the President that he

is

is enabled by the action of Congress to carry out the desire long entertained by the Government of the United States and that the President does not doubt the money will be accepted by H. I. M.'s Government as an additional evidence of the friendly interest of the Government of the United States in matters that concern the welfare and progress of the people and Government of Japan.

It is a source of satisfaction to me to be able to assure Your Excellency in reply, that H. I. M.'s Government regard the spontaneous return of the money which was paid by the Government of Japan to that of the United States under

the

the convention of October 22nd 1864, not only as an additional proof of the friendly disposition of Your Excellency's Government towards H. I. M's Government but as a strong manifestation of that spirit of justice and equity which has always animated the United States in their relations with Japan and it will I am convinced tend to perpetuate and strengthen the mutual confidence, and the feeling of cordial goodwill and freindship which at present happily subsist between the people of our respective countries.

In this sense H. I. M's Government do not hesitate to accept the the money in question and in accordance

-cordance with Your Excellency's re-
request that I would designate
some person to receive the draft
I beg that you will have the good-
-ness at your convenience to en-
-dorse it to my order as H. I. M's
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Requesting that Your Excellency
will be pleased to convey to the
President of the United States the
sentiments contained in this com-
-munication.

I avail myself of this oc-
-casion to renew to Your Excellen-
-cy the assurance of my highest
consideration,

Inouye Kaoru

H. I. J. Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Enclosure No. 2. to Mr. Bingham's No. 1677.

Copy.

No. 2002. U. S. Legation,

Tokei, Japan. April 23d 1883.

His Excellency,

Inouye Kaoru.

H. I. J. M's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Sir:

Referring to my note No. 1998 of date the 19th instant which I had the honor to address to Your Excellency acquainting you of the receipt by me of a draft on the Treasury of the United States dated March 21st 1883, payable to the order of the Secretary of State of the United States of America and by him endorsed to my order which draft calls for the sum of Seven Hundred and Eighty Five Thousand and

87/100

87/100 Dollars and which the Secre-
-tary of State instructed me to pay
to your government in fulfill-
-ment of an Act of Congress of
the 22nd of February, 1883. a copy of
which I enclosed with my said
No. 1998, I now beg leave, in accord
-ance with the said instructions
and also with your verbal re-
-quest, to deliver said draft to you
with my endorsement thereon to pay
the same to your order as His Im-
-perial Japanese Majesty's Minister
for Foreign Affairs.

I will thank you for an early
acknowledgment of this and of my
previous note No. 1998, and also of the
receipt of the enclosed draft en-
-dorsed as aforesaid by me to your
order

order.

I beg leave to renew to Your Ex-
-cellency the assurance of my high-
-est consideration.

[Signed] John A. Bingham.

Enclosure.

Draft endorsed by Mr. Frelinig-
-huysen and Mr. Bingham as follows:

Pay to the order of John A Bingham
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plen-
-ipotentiary of the United States of
America in Japan.

[Signed] Fredk T. Frelinghuysen.

The Secretary of State of the United
States of America

Pay to the order of Inouye Kaoru.
His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Min-
-ister for Foreign Affairs

[Signed] John A. Bingham.

Envoy

Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plen-
-ipotentiary of the United States of A-
-merica in Japan.

PRINTED.
FOREIGN RELATIONS.
1883

Mins

No. 1677.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 7 1883
RECEIVED

U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan May 9th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To The Secretary of State.

Subject.

Delivery to the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs of the U. S. Treasury draft for the payment of the Shimonoseki Indemnity money appropriated by Act of Congress.

Enclosure of correspondence on the subject.

No. 1677. U. S. Legation,

Tokei, Japan, May 9th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my No. 1671 of date the 20th April ultimo. in relation to the Treasury draft for the payment of the money to His Imperial Japanese Government appropriated by the Act of Congress approved 22nd February last on account of the Shimonoseki indemnity, I have the honor to further acquaint you that on the 22nd instant His Excellency Mr. Inouye, His Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs addressed a communication to me in reply to my note

to

to him of date, the 19th of April last (a copy of which last named note I had the honor to enclose with my said No. 1671.) wherein the Minister was pleased among other things to say that "it is a source "of satisfaction to me (him) to be able "to assure Your Excellency in reply "[to my note of 19th of April] that His "Imperial Majesty's Government re- "-gard the spontaneous return of "the money which was paid by the "Government of Japan to that of the "United States under the convention "of October 22nd 1864, not only as an ad- "-ditional proof of the friendly disposi- "-tion of Your Excellency's Government "towards H. I. M's Government but as "a strong manifestation of that spirit

of

"of justice and equity which has
"always animated the United
"States in their relations with
"Japan and it will I am convinc-
"-ed tend to perpetuate and
"strengthen the mutual confi-
"-dence, and the feeling of cor-
"-dial goodwill and friendship
"which at present happily subsist
"between the people of our re-
"-spective countries."

The Minister as you will observe in this communication of the 22nd ultimo (a copy of which I have the honor to enclose herewith) after requesting that I should endorse the Treasury draft to his order as His Imperial Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs adds a re-

-quest

-quest that I would "be pleased
" to convey to the President of the
" United States the sentiments con-
"-tained "in his said communication.

The Minister having called on me to thank me in person for my note of the 19th instant before the receipt of the foregoing communication and having then verbally requested that I should endorse the draft to his order in his official capacity. I did on the 28th ultimo and before the receipt by me of the enclosed communication of the Minister dated the 22nd instant, address a note to the Minister (a copy of which is enclosed) and transmitted therewith the draft endorsed

2/

to

to his order as His Majesty's
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

To this note His Excellency
made reply under date the 26th
ultimo, a copy of which reply is
herewith, (enclosed) wherein the acknowl-
-edgment is made of the Treasury
Draft as dated 2nd March. 1883.
payable to your order and en-
-dorsed by you to my order and
by me endorsed to the order of
Mr. Inouye His Imperial Japanese
Majesty's Minister for Foreign Af-
-fairs and stating that "the Draft
" calls for $785.000.87/100" and "is paid
" to His Imperial Majesty's Govern-
" -ment in fulfillment of the Act
" of Congress approved Feb. 22nd 1883".

Allow me to add that it

was

was fitting that this act of justice
and liberality should be approved
as it was by the President on the
anniversary of the nativity of the
Father of our Country.

I have the honor to be. Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosures.

No. 1. Mr. Inouye to Mr. Bingham

The 22nd the 4th month the 16th year Meiji

No. 2. Mr. Bingham to Mr. Inouye.

April 23d 1883.

No. 3. Mr. Inouye to Mr. Bingham.

The 26th, the 4th month, the 16th year Meiji.

Enclosure No. 3 to Mr. Bingham's No. 1677.

Copy

Translation

No. 19.

Foreign Office. Tokio.
The 26th the 4th Month.
the 16th Year Meiji.

His Excellency,

John A. Bingham,

Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the U. S. A.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note of the 23rd instant, covering a draft on the Treasury of the United States dated March 21st 1883, payable to the order of the Secretary of State of the United States of America, and by him endorsed to Your Excellency's order and by Your Excellency endorsed to my order as H. I. J. M's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The

The draft as your advice me calls for $185000 57/100 which sum Your Excellency states the Honorable the Secretary of State instructed you to pay to H. I. M's. Government in fullfillment of the Act of Congress approved February 22nd 1863.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration,

Iwouye Kaoru.

H. I. J. M's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Ack by No 4
File

Foreign

No. 1679.

U. S. Legation,

Tokei, Japan May 10th 1883.

Hon. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Remarks upon the leader in the Japan Daily Herald criticising the relations between China, Japan, Corea and the United States.

No. 1679. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan. May 10th 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In the Daily Japan Herald, a British Journal published at Yokohama, there appeared in its issue of the 5th instant an editorial in relation to the United States and its diplomatic action with China, Japan, and Corea which it seems to me reflects to some extent the views of British officials here and elsewhere, a copy of which article I beg leave to enclose for your information.

The writer takes pains to proclaim that the United States having

having treaties with China and Japan displays "its anxiety" to "cultivate friendly relations" al- "most wholly "towards Japan" in "every way the inferior power." It is declared that the Chinese Exclusion Act and "Shimonoseki indemnity Act bear witness to the existence of "this spirit to favor Japan "as against China. Our Government is arraigned, you will observe, for making a secret Treaty with Japan (that of 1878), and also with "the retention here "year after year of a Minister who "is regarded as little disposed to "exert himself in opposition to Japan- "-ese encroachments."

It would have been worth while

while one would suppose for this Brit-
-ish organ to have shown by what
authority the United States is thus
challenged for making the Treaty
of 1878 with Japan. and also to have
shown specifically wherein Japan
had made encroachments to which
the U.S. Minister "is regarded as
"little disposed to exert himself in
"opposition."

Our government is further assail-
-ed for ratifying the objectionable
Treaty with Corea, and notice is
given that the Chinese, if it
suited them, could dispose of
the sovereignty of Corea, taking
care to allege that "the existence
"of Corea as an independent kingdom
"is as much a fiction as the knightly

of

"of the Loo Choos"

The sage advice is tendered to the Powers (European States) not to ratify the treaties recently negotiated by them with Corea but to "urge that to all intents and purposes it (Corea) forms part of the Chinese Empire."

It is further stated in this article that the Treaty ratified by the U. S. Senate "whilst its most objectionable provisions are retained" was altered by the Senate "sitting in secret session;" and therefore may not prove entirely acceptable. There was certainly no alteration made in the Treaty by the Senate's action explanatory of the meaning of one of its articles, and which explanation in my opinion

-ion accords with the letter and spirit of the Treaty. How the Editor of the Herald came by the information that the Senate had taken any action on the subject beyond the mere ratification of the Treaty I have no information beyond a statement of Mr. Goward to me that intimation appeared in American papers that some such action was taken by the Senate.

It is very significant that this article insists that the treaties concluded by European States with Corea should before ratification "be remodelled and revised in almost "every clause." I attach importance to this statement chiefly because the British Consul at Kobe, Mr.

Aston

Aston has been for several months past in Corea, attempting, it is said, to remodel and revise the Treaty concluded by the British Admiral Willes.

This gentleman, Mr. Aston, recently returned from Corea and it is reported went back again about the 1st instant, doubtless to further press the subject of remodelling the British Treaty.

The last paragraph of the enclosed article is noticeable in that it declares that so long as the Powers which have treaties with Corea refuse to ratify, it does not seem that the time is ripe for the residence of a Foreign Minister in that country, adding that Gen. Foote having been

sent

-out in a forlorn sort of way" it
" is not to be wondered at, that by
" the aid of Mr. Bingham, he ~~[illegible]~~
" ~~[illegible]~~ should have dropped
" into the hands of the Japanese,
" who are only too happy in furnish-
" -ing General Foote with interpreters,
" etc, etc." Without question
the intent of this malicious arte-
-cle is to excite the jealousy of
China against both the United
-ed States and Japan, and to pre-
-vent if possible, the exchange of
ratifications between our govern-
-ment and that of Corea

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Wm. A. Bingham

Enclosure.

Enclosure to Mr. Bingham's No. 1679.

The Japan Daily Herald.

SATURDAY, 5TH MAY, 1883.

It cannot with truth be averred that the diplomatic action of the United States in the Far East, is characterised by a superabundance of sagacity. Of two empires with which it has treaties,—China and Japan,—its anxiety to cultivate friendly relations seems to be displayed almost wholly towards the smaller, and in every way inferior Power. Two pieces of legislation,—the Chinese Exclusion Act, and the Act directing the executive to return a portion of the Shimonoseki Indemnity, bear witness to the existence of that spirit. The execution of a secret treaty with Japan, unwisely surrendering to her the control of her tariff, and the retention here year after year, of a Minister who is regarded as little disposed to exert himself in opposition to Japanese encroachments, are evidences which point in the same direction.

Then again the preposterous precipitancy of the American Cabinet in taking action with respect to Commodore SHUFELDT's objectionable treaty with Korea, is of a piece with what we have mentioned, because Japan having designs of her own in regard to Korea, and also a treaty with it, has exhibited a good deal of perturbation at the idea, which has within the past year gained weight from occurrences which have taken place, that the existence of Korea as an independent kingdom, is as much of a fiction as the kingship of the Loo Choos. The Japanese have made short work of the pretensions of the latter, just as the Chinese, if it suited them, would dispose of the sovereignty of the former so called kingdom. The Powers, so far from ratifying the recent Korean treaties, should insist upon the double-dealing policy of China with regard to Korea, being brought to an end, and should urge that to all intents and purposes, it forms part of the Chinese Empire.

There certainly can be no national advantage obtained by ratifying treaties which are almost, as has been declared by the Chambers of Commerce of Hongkong, Shanghai, and Yokohama, without any merit to recommend them. It would have been judicious on the part of the United States, to have abstained from action until such time as the Powers had obliged China to abandon her shuffling line of dealing, and then either to insist upon the existing treaties of the Middle Kingdom being made equally applicable to Korea, or in default of that, the treaties, which under the direction of, and at the instigation of the wily LI HUNG CHANG, have been tendered to foreign nations desirous of entering into relations with Korea, should be remodelled, and revised in almost every clause. As to the treaty with the United States, which has been ratified by the Senate, whilst retaining most of its objectionable provisions, that body, sitting in secret session took upon itself, we believe, to make some alterations, and the treaty, of which GENERAL FOOTE, the newly appointed U.S. Minister to Seoul, is the bearer, may not prove entirely acceptable to its original authors.

Beyond the presentation of the document, it were hard to determine what the United States Government proposes to accomplish by sending GENERAL FOOTE to Korea, for so long as such of the Powers which have got treaties hold aloof from ratifying them, it does not seem that the time is ripe, or the circumstances of the situation are such, as to call for the residence of a foreign Minister. As to GENERAL FOOTE, from the forlorn sort of way in which he has been sent out by his Government, without interpreters, and himself without any practical knowledge of the peoples of the East, it is not to be wondered at, that by the aid of Mr. BINGHAM, he should have dropped into the hands of the Japanese, who of course are only too happy in furnishing GENERAL FOOTE with interpreters, to have the opportunity of learning from them whatever passes between the U. S. Envoy, and the Korean authorities, and to act accordingly. Under these circumstances, it is quite possible that GENERAL FOOTE will be made use of unconsciously to himself, in furtherance of Japanese policy in Korea, and it is highly probable that the Government in Tokio will be kept much better informed of what passes, and its meaning, than that in Washington.

Mem and expression of appreciation of letter written by Gen. Foote to Gen. Foote - June 25 '83 Cridler

No 1680

U.S. Legation

Tokei Japan May 11th 1883

Mr Bingham

To the Secretary of State

Subject

Departure of Mr Foote for Corea

Audience of Mr. Foote and Mr. Bingham with H.I.J.M. the Emperor. Breakfast with His Majesty, and Conversation upon the subject of Mr. Foote's mission. H.M. request Mr. Foote to exercise his good offices in Corea to prevent misunderstanding between China and Japan. Also reports Conversation of H.M. with Mr. Bingham

Entertainment given to Mr. Foote and Mr. Bingham by the Chinese Minister, and Conversation with the latter upon subject of the Treaty with Corea.

U.S. Legation

Tokei Japan May 11th 1883

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

Mr Foote, of whose arrival I made mention in my No 1673 left Yokohama for his post of duty on the 2nd inst. by way of Nagasaki where the U.S.S "Monocacy" was at the time in waiting to convey him to Corea. I have no doubt that to-day, or at the farthest to-morrow, he will have reached the Capital of that country. I conferred fully with him during his sojourn here. On the 24th ultimo, he together with myself was received in audience by His Imperial Majesty

Majesty at the Palace, no other person being present except Mr Inouye His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs. We were both most cordially received by the Emperor, who invited us to be seated, when His Majesty taking a chair also, with the Foreign Minister's aid addressing Mr Foote, expressed his gratification that our government had ratified the Treaty with Corea and had commissioned Mr Foote as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to represent the United States at that Court, and further said that he hoped that Mr Foote would be pleased to exercise his good offices in Corea to bring about friendly relations between the Chinese and Japanese governments, and

and to prevent any conflict between the troops of the Chinese and Japanese at present stationed in the Corean Capital.

Mr. Foote answered His Majesty that under the instructions of our government his good offices would be employed as far as practicable to maintain friendly relations between Corea and The United States, and the other powers holding relations with that country.

His Majesty, addressing himself to me, said that he greatly valued the uniform kindness manifested by the United States towards the Japanese government and people, that the very liberal act of our government in returning the Shimo-

no seki

-no Seki money was determined as an additional ~~upon~~ Evidence of friendship on the part of the United States, and that the declaration of our government ~~of~~ its readiness to consent to a revision of the existing Treaties with Japan on the basis proposed by His Majesty's government, was an act of goodwill and justice that could not be too highly appreciated.

His Majesty was pleased further to say that he desired that I would kindly communicate to the government of the United States his grateful acknowledgments for all these manifestations, by the United States, of their friendship towards Japan.

Upon the close of the interview, Mr Foote and I were invited to breakfast

breakfast
with His Majesty, in which we were
joined by the Prince Arisugawa,
Mr. Inouye, and by the Ministers of
the Imperial Household, and the
Prime Minister, Mr. Sanjo.

A few days later His Majesty invited
Mr. and Mrs. Foote, my family and
myself to a private entertainment
at his summer garden, where His
Majesty, with his ministers above
mentioned, again entertained us with
a breakfast.

Mr. Inouye also extended hospitalities
to Mr. and Mrs. Foote, myself and family,
and Mr. Seward, at his country seat.
These civilities, so marked and unusual,
evidence the sincere regard of His
Majesty and the Imperial government,
for the government and people of the
United

Mr Foote procured two interpreters one a Japanese, the other a Corean both of whom I have known for some time, and each of whom I am sure will prove trustworthy and capable, and be of great value to Mr Foote in the performance of his delicate official duties in Corea.

I beg leave further to acquaint you that Mr Li Shu-chang the Chinese Minister at this court gave a private entertainment to Mr. and Mrs Foote, to my family Mr. Seward, and myself at his residence on the 30th ultimo. On which occasion Mr Foote sought and obtained a private interview with His Excellency Li Shu-chang, at which I was present. Mr. Foote at this interview

interview informed the Minister that he was instructed by the government
"of the United States to say to the govern-
"ment of Corea, that, as far as we,
"the United States, are concerned, Corea
"is an independent sovereign power,
"with all the attendant rights, privileges
"duties and responsibilities, and that
"with her relations to China we have
"no desire to interfere.

This Mr Foote read clearly and distinctly to the Minister who expressed his satisfaction therewith, and said it was understood that Corea was sovereign and independent in her foreign relations, and home or internal government. The Minister also said that he should communicate the Conversation to Li-Hung-Chang by the outgoing mail

mail. Mr. Foote requested that he should do so. He Enquired of Mr Foote if the treaty remained the same as negociated by Commodore Shufeldt; to which Mr. Foote made reply, that it did ~~not~~ remain as that gentleman negociated it.

On the next morning May 1st after Mr Foote had left my house for Yokohama the Chinese Minister sent his Secretary to ask me if the Corean Treaty had been changed by our Government, or if it was the same Treaty concluded by Corea with Commodore Shufeldt. I replied to the Secretary (who was present at the interview on the preceding evening between Mr. Foote and the Chinese Minister) that I could only answer by repeating what Mr. Foote had

had said to the Chinese Minister, to wit:
that the Treaty was the same as concluded
by Commodore Shufeldt- and was not-
Changed by our government, and
added, further that the Secretary would please say
to his Minister, Li-Shu-chang, that in
my opinion it would be greatly to
the interest of both Corea and China
that no European intervention should
be permitted to interfere, in carrying
into effect, the Treaty between the
United States and Corea, and an ex-
change of the ratifications thereof
between the two Countries, or to allow
any question to be made of the right
and duty of Corea, as an independent
State, to exchange the ratifications of
her Treaty with the United States.
As Mr. Foote had said nothing about
the

the explanatory Resolution of the Senate I did not feel at liberty to mention it, as I consider, that it in no wise changes the Treaty.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

M. A. Dickerson

Ack by w t
File

Wiring

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 7 1883

No 1681

U.S. Legation
Tokei Japan May 24 1883

Mr Brigham to
The Secretary of State

Subject

The appointment of Mr. Kikuchi to represent H. I. J. Majesty at the proposed International Conference in Washington City on the day to be named by the President.

No 1681

U.S. Legation

Tokei Japan May 14th 1883

Hon Frederick T Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my No 1646 of date the 21st of March last in relation to the invitation extended by the President to this government to be represented in an international Conference proposed to be held in Washington on a day to be named by the President; I now have the honor to further acquaint you that His Excellency Mr Inouye H. I. J. M. His Minister for Foreign Affairs, has by an official note of current date informed me that this government has appointed

Mr.

Mr. Kikuchi Daisoku, (a professor in the Imperial University of Tokei,) to represent H. I. Majesty's government in the International Conference at Washington, and that Mr. Kikuchi will immediately upon the receipt of official notice from our government of the day fixed by the President for the opening of the Conference set out for Washington.

I beg leave to request instruction as soon as convenient of the day named by the President for the convening of the Conference, that I may officially communicate the same to His Majesty's government.

I have the honor to be Sir

Your obedient servant

Jno. A. Bingham

Mailing

No. 1682.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 25 1883
RECEIVED

U. S Legation.

Tokei. May 26th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of Instructions 729. 730. 731. 732 & 733 respectively. together with Circular instruction dated April 12th 1883.

Transmission of five copies of Protocol Sanitary Conference to the Japanese Government.

No. 1682. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, May 26th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of instructions nombere 729. 730. 731, 732 and 733 respectively and also Circular instruction of date April 12th 1883, transmitting six copies of the proceedings of the International Sanitary Conference held in Washington in the year 1881, five copies of which I have in accordance with said instructions transmitted to His Excellency the Foreign Minister for

Foreign Affairs and acquainted
him by note of current date
a copy of which is herewith
that the same were trans-
-mitted by the Department for
presentation to His Majesty's Gov-
-ernment.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. A Rheinlander

Enclosure.

Copy of note to Mr. Joshida
May 26th 1883. as above.

Enclosure to Mr. Bingham's No. 1682.

Copy.

No 2032 U. S. Legation

Tokei Japan May 26. 1883.

His Excellency

Yoshida Kiyonari

H. I. J. Majesty's Acting Ministers for

Foreign Affairs.

Sir!

It gives me pleasure to transmit herewith five copies of the official report of the "Proceedings of the International Sanitary Conference held in Washington in the early part of the year 1881 in response to invitations issued by the United States Government pursuant to a joint resolution of Congress approved May 14th 1880.

I have been instructed to acquaint you that these volumes were forwarded

to

to me by the Department of State for presentation to your Excellency's government.

Receive the renewed assurance of my highest Consideration.

[Signed] John A. Bingham

No. 1683. To Mr Scales June 26 pb
Cir'd
One copy to Library
June 26 pb
One copy to Navy
June 26 pb

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 25 1883
RECEIVED

U. S. Legation,

Tokei, Japan. May 28th 1883.

Hon. Bingham.

To the Department of State.

Subject.

Monthly returns for March 1883 of the foreign trade of the Empire of Japan.

(Noted)

No. 1683. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan. May 28th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State,

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to transmit for your information triplicate copies of the "Monthly return of the Foreign Trade of the Empire of Japan" for the month of March 1883.

The tables on pages 1. 3 & 4 respectively show the total value in yen of the commodities exported from and imported into the open ports and the quantity and value in yen of specie and bullion exported from

from and imported into the open ports of Japan during said month.

From these Tables it appears that the value of the export of commodities was 2.821.301.00 yen and that the value of the import of commodities was 2.626.732.00 yen the value of the exports being in excess of that of the imports yen 194.569.00.

The total exports of specie and bullion was yen 190.179.00 and the total import thereof was yen 332.839.00.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure under separate cover.

Triplicate copies Monthly return of foreign trade of Japan. March 1883.

Copy, with two copies of the enclosures, sent to the Postmaster General April 27 '83 C.H.D.

One copy to Library April 27 '83 C.H.D.

Mailing

No. 1684.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 25 1883
RECEIVED

U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan, May 28th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Department of State.

Subject.

Eleventh Report of the Postmaster General of Japan for the fiscal year ended June 30th 1882.

Six (6) copies enclosed under separate cover.

No. 1684. U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan, May. 28th 83

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith six copies of the eleventh (11) report of the Postmaster General of Japan for the fiscal year ended June 30th (fifteenth year of Meiji) 1882.

It appears (page 2) that the postal revenues exceeded the expenditures for the year to the amount in yen 189.983.26, exclusive of yen 267000 paid for steamship service during the year.

The

The aggregate number of letters, newspapers, books, samples etc. transmitted in the mails during the year (page 4) was 96,916.235; and the aggregate length of all mail routes in operation (page 6) at the close of the year was 48.972 5/10 English miles; the total number of Post offices and mail receptacles in operation (pages 6 & 7) was 22.665.

It is noticeable that the total loss of money and money order transactions in the mails after deducting what were reclaimed was but yen 10.70.

The report contains statements (pages 13 & 14) of Postal money orders issued and paid during the ye

year showing the whole number thereof issued to have been 560.010, aggregating in value yen 8.521.459 23/100 of which were paid during the year 556.109 aggregating in value 8.511.207 41/100 yen.

I beg leave to invite your attention to the report pages 16-18, concerning the Post office Savings Banks showing the whole number of Banks, the total deposits and the interest paid to depositors, and the revenue derived therefrom.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your obedient Servant.

Jno A. Bingham

Enclosure under a separate cover six copies report of P. O. Generaral of Japan - 1882.

Wing

No 1685

Acted giving copy of Mr. Bing's note of April 28. 1883. upon subject dated June 30. 1883 Credits

U.S. Legation

Tokei Japan May 29, 1883

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State

Subject-

Article in Japan Daily Mail May 28th. to the effect that the English Government is desirous of getting the opinions of the other European States upon the subject of the revision of the existing Treaties with Japan before acting.

Indications of present purpose of the English Government respecting said revision.

No 1685 U.S. Legation Yokei

May 30th 1883

Hon. Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to enclose for your information a paragraph cut from the Japan Daily Mail of the 28th inst: in relation to the revision of the treaties with Japan and the present position of Great Britain on the subject.

You will note that it is stated in this article that Her Britannic Majesty's Government "are desirous of getting the opinions of the other European Governments interested, and that representations on the subject have taken place"

It appears that Her Majesty's Govermnt seeks

seeks now, as heretofore, only the opinions of European States and disregards the opinions of the United States and indeed of all American States.

It is further to be remarked that it is said in the article "That it is understood that the enhanced Tariff (doubtless as prescribed in the counter Statement of the British Minister as published in the Protocols of the Conference) will be conceded on the basis "That this additional revenue shall be employed in putting the paper currency in a more satisfactory condition." I do not doubt that this sentiment together with the other sentiments of the paragraph reflects the present purposes of the British Government on the whole subject of Treaty revision with Japan. But it is very suggestive that nothing

nothing is said of the condition asked by this Government as to the Tariff, that the Tariff provision of the Treaty as proposed should expire of its own limitation within eight years: English capacity will not admit of any such equitable condition, nothing will satisfy her but a Tariff dictated by herself and to remain in force during her pleasure. On this basis England, it is said, will directly and severally consider a Trade Convention with Japan, while it is well understood that she will not at present relinquish "such matters as extra territoriality."

It remains to be seen whether England after consulting European States will without regard to their wishes Conclude or seek to conclude a Tariff Convention severally

Severally with Japan and to insist- also upon the further Concession by this plundered people to British subjects of the right- to acquire and occupy lands, and Trade throughout the Empire without being subject- to Japanese taxation or the restraints of Japanese law.

Judging the future by the past; it would not surprise me if this should be the ultimatum of Her Britannic Majesty's Government on the propositions submitted by that of Japan for the revision of existing Treaties.

I have the honour to be, Sir

Your Obedient Servant

Jno A Bingham

Enclosure from Japan Daily Mail May 28/83

Enclosure with Mr. Bingham's No 1685

Japan Daily Mail May 28th 1883

With reference to the Revision of the Treaties with Japan we understand that Her Majesty's Government are desirous of getting the opinions of the other European Governments interested, and that representations on the subject have taken place. These refer to the matters that were under discussion in the Conferences at Tokio. As has been already stated, it is understood that the enhanced Tariff will be conceded on the basis that the additional revenue shall be employed for the present in putting the paper currency in a more satisfactory condition. The Convention on Trade will, we believe, be concluded between the two Governments directly, while such matters as extra-territoriality—which it is well understood that the Government do not intend to relinquish at present—H.M.'s Government will wait to have an expression of opinion from the other foreign Powers interested.

Expression of Emperor's friendly sentiments June 7. 83. and Easter.

King

No. 1686. U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan. May 29th 1883.

Mr. Bingham.

To the Department of State.

Subject.

Additional report of the conversation at the audience with the Emperor of Japan granted to Mr. Foote and Mr. Bingham. April 24th 1883.

No. 1686. U.S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan May 29th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my No. 1680. of date the 11th instant wherein among other things I acquainted you of the audience granted by His Imperial Japanese Majesty on the 24th ultimo to Mr. Foote and myself and wherein I also reported as far as I could the conversation on that occasion had by His Majesty with both of us.

I now have the pleasure to enclose a fuller and more complete report of the remarks

which

which it pleased His Majesty to address on that occasion to Mr. Foote and also to me. I received from His Excellency Mr. Goshida on yesterday a written statement of the Emperors words as reported from the Imperial Household, a copy of which statement I have the honor to enclose herewith. 1/

The report is not only confirmatory of what was given in my No. 1680, but is still more significant in this that it repeats more fully & exactly the Emperor's words.

It will not I am sure escape your notice that His Majesty when speaking to Mr. Foote and myself and referring to the rumor of the possibility of war between

-tween Japan and China said:

"I am opposed to such a contingency.
"The tranquility and progress of the
"Orient will be best secured by
"increasing the friendship and good
"understanding between the two nations
"and I am convinced that an ap-
"-peal to arms will never be found
"necessary."

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure.

Copy of report from Foreign of-
-fice of the Emperor's remarks at
the audience.

Enclosure to Mr. Bingham's No. 1686.

Copy.

His Majesty the Emperor granted Mr. Bingham and Mr. Forte a private audience at the Akasaka Palace on the 24th April 1883.

His Majesty, after Congratulating Mr. Forte upon his appointment, said to Mr. Bingham.

"I feel highly gratified with the adhesion to and acceptance by your country of the principles proposed at the Preliminary Conference for the Revision of the Treaties as well as with the return of the Shimonoseki Indemnity Fund In these acts I recognize the friendly sympathy of your Government.

I attribute these fruitful results

and the increase of friendly relations to your complete and faithful reports to your Government which were the results of your long residence here, added to a correct comprehension and appreciation of the condition of Japan.

My Minister for Foreign Affairs has reported to me the return of the Indemnity fund. I shall always cherish the conviction that this determination is due to your sincerity and the friendly disposition of your Government towards my country"

His Majesty then said both to Mr. Bingham and Mr. Fowle;

"I hear there are rumors of the possibility of war between Japan and China. I am opposed to such a

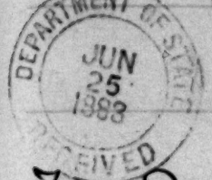
contingency. The tranquility and progress of the Orient will be best secured by increasing the friendship and good understanding between the two nations, and I am convinced that an appeal to arms will never be found necessary. I have not forgotten the good advice of General Grant when he paid a visit to my Empire. My Minister for Foreign Affairs will probably converse with you regarding China and Korea, and in discussing the question with him I trust you will bear in mind what I have now stated"

Inclosure - visit. not published the treaty until we hear from Corea.

Acted will take up June 29. 83 Cridler

Inclosing

No. 687



U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan May 29th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Exchange of the ratifications of the U. S. Treaty with Corea.

Synopsis.

Gratification at receiving notice from Mr. Yoshida of the exchange of ratifications at Seoul May 19th 1883.

Telegram dated at Seoul May 23d 1883.

" " " Nagasaki " 28th "

Telegram sent by Mr. Yoshida to Her. Terashima at Washington for Secretary of State.

Action of the British Minister &
the British organs in opposition to
the treaty in Japan.

Significant remarks of Mr. Goshida.
Great Britain and her allies the in-
-terested parties.
Reasons for such opinion.
Denunciation of the treaty by the British
Chamber of Commerce.
Statement by British Minister that
the treaty would not be ratified.
Action of Mr. Aston in Corea.

No. 1687. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan. May 29th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

It is a great gratification to me to have received this day by the favor of Mr. Joshida, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs a note advising me of the exchange at Séoul of the ratifications between the governments of the United States and Corea of their Treaty of Friendship and Commerce.

I enclose a copy of Mr. Joshi-da's note and of its enclosure, the extract from the telegram

of

of the Japanese Minister in Corea dated 23d May at Seoul and at Nagasaki May 28th.

I note with pleasure the remark of Mr. Yoshida that he has to-day telegraphed His Excellency Mr. Terashima informing him of the exchange of the ratifications and instructing him to communicate the same to you.

This ends the officious proclamation of the British Minister at this Court that the Korean Treaty with the United States was not and would not be ratified and the no less officious announcement of the British organ as communicated in the Japan Daily Herald of the 5th instant, a copy of which was enclosed with

with my No. 1679. — of date the 10th instant that the Senate of the United States "took upon itself in secret "session to make alterations in the "Treaty which may not appear entirely "acceptable to its original authors"

You will observe Mr. Yoshida remarks in his note to me that the exchange of ratifications "have been done" in spite of certain intrigues "attempted by some interested parties "to hinder the exchange."

I am strongly inclined to the opinion that Great Britain with her allies was the interested party, and that the intrigue was sought to be accomplished; first, by the denunciations of the Treaty by British Chambers of Commerce as heretofore reported

reported to you by me; second, by the British Ministers statement to this Government that the Treaty had not been and would not be ratified by our government; third, by the British organ's proclamation that the Treaty had been altered by our Government;— and finally by the two visits of the British Consul, (Mr. Aston) to Corea of which I have before advised; his first visit having been made some weeks previous to Mr. Foote's arrival here, and his last, having been made five days in advance of Mr. Foote's departure from Nagasaki for Corea. Mr. Aston remained on this last visit to Corea from about the 10th to the 19th instant as I am informed.

It

It is rumored that Mr. Aston in his last visit to Corea intimated to that government that Mr. Foote would probably not reach Corea by the 22nd inst. the day limited for the exchange of the ratifications. Whether this rumor be true or not, it cannot be questioned that the British government and its representatives here and elsewhere have exhausted every possible resource short of direct intervention to prevent the consummation of the Treaty between the United States and Corea.

Despite all that has been said and done to prevent it the Treaty is a fact accomplished, and by its just and liberal provisions

reflects

reflects honor upon our goverw-
-ment and, it is to be hoped, a step
towards the liberation of the Ori-
-ental nations from the oppression
and plunder of European States.
You will please consider the
the note of Mr. Yoshida to me as
strictly private.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant.
Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure.

Mr. Yoshida to Mr. Bingham [Private
and confidential] enclosing extract
of telegram.

Enclosure to Mr. Bingham's No. 1687.

Copy.

[Private and confidential]

My Dear Mr Bingham:

I am very happy to know that the ratification of the America-Corean Treaty was exchanged on the 19th instant at Seoul; the extract of Mr. Takeyoye's telegram to that effect is herewith enclosed. I have at once telegraphed to Mr. Terashima informing him of the above and further instructing him to make it known to the Secretary of State as early as may be.

Congratulating with you for this successful mission of Mr Foote

I am very Sincerely
(Signed) Yoshida Kiyonari

P.S. I am doubly glad that the transaction was thus done, it is said, in spite of

certain intrigues attempted by some interested party to hinder the Exchange.

Extract of Telegram from Japanese Minister at Seoul.

* * * * At the request of the Corean Government, the Exchange was decided to take place at Keijo (Seoul). The American Minister proceeded to the Capital on the 17th. The Exchange was made on the 19th, and the audience was granted on the 20th followed by an European dinner in which I was present. The Corean Government has shown the most friendly disposition and is desirous to do its utmost for the American Minister who is entirely satisfied with Everything * * * *

Dated May 20th Nagasaki

" " 23 Seoul

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN
25
1883
RECEIVED

No. 266

M. Shufeldt

Tokei Japan May 30th 1883

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Article in Japan Daily Herald dated May 30th 1883. stating that Great Britain and Germany have postponed the ratification of their treaties with Corea for one year.

Remarks upon said editorial.

No. 1688. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan. May 30th 1883.

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I am this morning in the receipt of the Japan Daily Herald of last evening the 29th instant which contains a very significant editorial article, a copy of which is herewith to the effect that Mr. Aston, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Kobe has just returned from Corea and that owing to the unsatisfactory character of the Corean Treaties, Great Britain and Germany have resolved with the assent of the Corean Govern-

ment

-ment to postpone ratifications until the end of the year.

After Great Britain has done her utmost as I have shown in my No. 1687 to prevent the ratification of our treaty with Corea and also to prevent the exchange of the ratifications thereof, now comes the Herald with what I regard to be a semi-official announcement as follows: "this rational "delay contrasts most favorably with "the precipitate action of America "in exchanging ratifications and "sending General Foote there."

I note not without satisfaction that Great Britain in taking this action alone with Germany seems to ignore all other European States and especially the French Government

Which

which it is understood has negotiated a Treaty with Corea. Possibly it is expected that France will await instructions before venturing to ratify or exchange her treaty with Corea.

The near future will determine whether national advantage will not accrue to the United States from the policy of justice which our government has inaugurated in Corea, notwithstanding the manifesto of the Herald that "no national advantage is likely to accrue to the United States" from "the precipitate action" of America" as it is termed in the premises.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure.

Editorial Article from Japan Daily Herald. of date May 30th 1882.

Enclosure to Mr. Brigham's No. 1688.

Editorial from the Japan Daily Herald of date May 29th 1883.

Mr. Aston, H. B. M. Consul at Kobe, who for some years past has made the Corean language an especial study, has just returned from that country. Owing to the unsatisfactory character of the Corean treaties both Great Britain and Germany have resolved, with the assent of the Corean Government, to postpone ratifications until the end of the year. The chances are that unless the tariff be modified, these treaties will perhaps not be ratified at all

This rational delay contrasts most favourably with the precipitate action of America in exchanging ratifications and sending General Foote there. No national advantage will be likely to accrue to the U. S., and this inconsiderate haste will only embarrass negotiations. The Corean Government is ignorant, greedy, and poverty-stricken, and its officials are possessed of the foolish idea that the higher the duties, the more money will come into their hands. They are anxious for foreign trade, though unless they lower the tariff very little trade will be done; but it requires both time and argument to make them understand the best course to be taken.

Papers ordered June 26. 1883. Young

Letter will be sent July 3. 1883. Chester

Inclosure

No 1689

U. S. Legation

Tokei Japan May 30th 1883

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State

Subject

Request for "Daily Commercial Gazette" published at Cincinnati O. for U. S. Legation Tokei.

No 1689

U. S. Legation

Yokohama Japan May 30th 1883

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

As at present I receive by the the Department of government account- ant one newspaper published in the United States to-wit "The National Republican: I beg leave most respectfully to request if it be agreeable to you that I may in addition thereto be supplied by the Department's order on government account with the "Daily Commercial Gazette" published at Cincinnati Ohio

I have the honor to be Sir

Your Obedient Servant-

Wm. A. Bingham

Feb

No. 1690.

U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan. June 8th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of instructions Nos. 734 & 735.

No. 1690. U. S. Legation

Tokei Japan. June 8th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of instructions numbered respectively 734 & 735 with enclosure of copy of Hon. Inc. Kenney's letter to Hon. Inr. Money

Your instruction No. 735 in relation to the seeds desired will be promptly acted upon and the seeds if procured will be forwarded by one or without delay through the Department.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno A. Bingham

Ack'd and thanks July 6 1883 Circular

Book to Mrs Dwight

W Rmg

No. 1691.

U. S. Legation,

Tokei, Japan, June 8th 1883.

Mr. Brigham.

To the Secretary of State

Subject

Transmission of books by the Japanese Government for the International Exchange at Washington with list of same.

No. 1691. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, June 8th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:

I am in receipt of a note dated the 29th ultimo (a copy of which is herewith) from His Excellency Mr. Yoshida, acting Minister of Foreign Affairs transmitting for Our government "in accordance with the agreement for the exchange of books between the two Governments" certain publications, a list of which is enclosed.

In accordance with the Minister's request I have the honor to transmit the publications specified

specified herewith.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure,

Mr. Yoshida to Mr. Bingham,

May 29th 1883.

together with list of books.

Enclosure to Mr. Bingham's No. 1691.

File No. 826

Copy —

Translation
No. 23

Foreign Office Tokio
The 29th of the 5th Month
the 16th year Meiji.
(May 29th 1883 Fr.)

His Excellency
Jno. A. Bingham
Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary of the U.S.A.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward to Your Excellency the publications mentioned in the enclosed list which have been sent to me from the proper department for transmission to Your Excellency's Government in accordance with the agreement for the exchange of books between two countries, and I beg to request that you will have the goodness to despatch them at your convenience to the Government of the United

United States.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of My highest Consideration

(Signed) Yoshida Kiyonari
H. I. J. M's Acting Minister
for Foreign Affairs

in library J.F.D.

List of Books

Annual returns of the Foreign Trade of the Empire of Japan 1882 1 vol

Monthly returns of H. I. M's Customs of Japan 1882. 8 vols.

Monthly returns of the Foreign Trade of the Empire of Japan 1883, 3 vols

Report of the Commissioner of the Imperial Mint - 1882
(Japanese and English) 2 vols.

Historical Sketch of Revenues & Taxation in Japan 10 vols.

Comparative tables of Imports and Exports, and duties collected at H. I. M's Customs 1881 1 vol

No. 1692.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 5 1883
RECEIVED

U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan. June 9th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Cutting of the strap of a despatch bag by reason of no key.

No. 1692. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan June 9th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State,

Washington D.C.

Sir:

In the Department pouch containing this despatch I have the honor to enclose and return a leather mail pouch the strap of which I was obliged to cut because I have no key answering the lock attached thereto.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your Obedient Servant

John A. Bingham

To Mr Lowell
July 6. 1883

arriving

No. 1693.

U. S. Legation.

Tokei. Japan. June 11th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject:

Monthly return for April 1883 of the foreign trade of the Empire of Japan.

(Abst.)

No. 1693. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan June 11th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I beg leave to transmit herewith for your information the "Monthly return of the foreign trade of the Empire of Japan for the month of April last.

It appears by the Tables, page 1, of this return that the total value of the export of commodities from Japan within said month was 1.760.058 yen in round numbers, and that the total value of the import of commodities thereto in the month was yen 2,233 807

2.333.807^{00} being in excess of the exports yen 473.748^{00}.

It also appears that the total amount of import duties for the month, page 2. was but 109.066^{00} yen.

The tables on page 3 of this re-turn show the quantity and val-ue of specie and bullion export-ed from and imported into each of the open ports of the Empire during the month.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Jno A. Bingham

Enclosure under separate cover.

Monthly returns for April 1883 of the foreign trade of the Empire of Japan.

No. 1694.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 5 1883
RECEIVED

U.S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan. June 11th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Requisition for Stationery.

No. 1694. U. S. Legation,

Tokei Japan. June 14th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

I beg leave respectfully to request that I may be furnished for the use of this Legation with stationery as follows:-

1. A supply of ruled Department despatch paper.

2. A supply of official envelopes blank save the stamp thereon, "Legation of the United States" and of the width and length of my folded despatches to the Department.

3. A supply of white note paper with

with plain square envelopes to to receive the same when folded double,

4. Also a supply of plain thin letter paper and plain thin letter envelopes.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

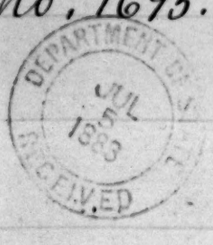
Your Obedient Servant.

Mo A. Bingham

Ans & file

Wing

No. 1695.



U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan, June 11th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

The Loo Choo question. The best way of settling the dispute between China and Japan.

Synopsis.

Receipt of a despatch from Minister Young upon the subject, a copy of which is enclosed.

Opinion of Mr. Bingham that China should take the initiative and re-open friendly negotiations on the

subject

subject with the Japanese Envoy
in Peking.

Attention called to the conversation
between Li Hung Chang & Mr. Holcombe
relative to the convention of 1880.

Mr. Bingham's explanation of the refu-
-sal of the Chinese officials to sign
as agreed upon between them.

Reason not considered satisfactory

Mr. Bingham repeats that in his
opinion China should re-open ne-
-gotiations on the basis of the con-
-vention of 1880.

No. 1695. U. S. Legation.

Tokei Japan June 11th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to instruction No. 721 marked confidential in relation to the Loo Choo dispute between China and Japan and enclosing copies of a confidential despatch of Mr. Young to the Department of date Oct. 9th 1882, and of your reply thereto, I beg leave to inform you that I am in receipt of a despatch from Mr. Young on the same subject of date the 9th ultimo, a copy of which I have the honor

to

enclose, and with which Mr. Young enclosed a copy of his despatch to you of date the 22nd of March together with a copy of its enclosure, the same being a memorandum of a conversation between His Excellency Li Hung Chang and Mr. Secretary Halcombe in relation to Loo Choo.

On the 8th instant I replied to Mr. Young's note to the effect that I still think in the present state of the question China should re-open friendly negotiations on the subject with His Excellency Mr. Enomotto the Japanese Envoy now in Peking and to that end China should take the initiative in my opinion.

You

You have doubtless observed in the conversation between His Excel-lency, Li Hung Chang and Mr. Hol-combe, as reported by Mr. Young with his No. 168 addressed to you on the 22d of March last, Mr. Holcombe is represented as hav-ing said to the Viceroy Li Hung Chang, that "he Holcombe felt "that the convention drawn up "between (the Japanese Minister) Mr. "Shisido and the Chinese Foreign Of-"-fice in Nov. 1880 was <u>not</u> the "best means of settlement. It pro-"-vided for the partition of Loo "lehoo between China and Japan &c" and finally concluded by saying that "the situation and the size "of the Loo Choo Islands, would not

"not admit of such a partition."

I have been informed that this convention of 1880 was not only drawn up between the Japanese Minister then at Peking and the Chinese Foreign office, but that the same was agreed to between the said parties, and the day named for signing the same; and that the Chinese officials on the day named for signing refused to do so, assigning for such refusal no other reason than that it was necessary to first submit the convention to the provincial governors of China for approval.

It is difficult to find in this

statement

statement a satisfactory reason
for refusing to sign and carry
out an agreement which it must
be believed was drawn up and
agreed to by the agents of the
Imperial Governments of China
and Japan in the exercise of
the power conferred upon those
agents by their respective governments.

In my opinion the readiest
and most reasonable way for
China to reach a satisfactory
and amicable settlement of
this question with Japan would
be, for China to reopen the negotiations
with Japan on the basis of
the convention of 1880.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Wm. W. Bingham

Enclosure

Enclosure.

Mr. Young to Mr. Bingham.

Peking May 9th 1883.

Enclosure to Mr. Bingham's No 1695.

Copy.

No 46/1883. One Enclosure

Legation of the United States

Peking, May 9th 1883.

Honorable John A Bingham

&c &c &c &c

Tokio, Japan.

My dear Colleague:—

I am informed by the Honorable Secretary of State, in a dispatch dated March 16th 1883. that he has sent for your confidential information a copy of my despatch to the Department in reference to the Loo Choo question. As this despatch gave the result of a long conversation between

Li Hung Chang and myself, and as Mr Holcombe, the Secretary of Legation, had a subsequent interview, I enclose for your information a copy of my despatch to the Department on the subject.

I think it will be for the public interest that you should know fully the mind of the Chinese Government as expressed by the dominant spirit in the Imperial Counsels.

I avail myself of this occasion to tender you the assurances of my highest consideration, and I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your Obedient Servant

(Signed) John Russell Young

Enclosure

1 Mr Young to Mr Frelinghuysen

No 168. March 22nd 1883.

Returned by mail to file

Writing

No. 1696.

U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan, June 11th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

The Payment of Batcheldor's bond by the Japanese government in United States dollars. Reasons for the delay.

Synopsis.

Receipt of telegraphic instruction from the Department after close of office hours. On Monday presented by Mr. Bingham in person to the Acting Minister for Foreign affairs, who expressed himself

himself satisfied but desired to retain telegram to confer with colleagues. On Saturday following Mr. Bingham again called. Finance Minister agreeable; also Mr. Inouye. Foreign Minister. However subject to must be passed upon by the Imperial Council. Favorable conclusion anticipated by Mr. Yoshida. Remarks by Mr. Bingham on the nature of the bond and place of payment. At closing of despatch no final information received.

No. 1696. U. S. Legation.

Tokei. Japan. June 11th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt on Saturday, the 2nd instant at 5.20 P.M. of the following Department telegraphic instruction as follows:

"Washington June 1st 1883. 1.40. P.M.

Bingham, Minister, Tokio

Department understands Batchelder's bond should be paid in United States dollars. Present this view and report by telegraph.

(Signed) Davis."

This instruction being received after

after close of office hours. I call
on Monday the 4th instant and
presented your telegraphic in-
-struction in person to His Excellency
Mr. Yoshida, His Imperial Japanese
Majesty's acting Minister for For-
-eign Affairs and stated verbally
to him my reasons in support
of your instruction that the bond
should be paid in U.S. gold dol-
-lars.

Mr. Yoshida expressed himself
satisfied with my statement, and
asked to be permitted to retain the
telegram that he might confer
with the Finance Minister on the
subject, and also with His Excellency
Mr. Inouye, who was absent in
Kioto. I left the telegram with

Mr

Mr. Goshida.

On Saturday last, the 9th instant I again called on Mr. Goshida who informed me that the Minister of Finance Mr. Matsukata had accepted the view of the Department, and also that Mr. Inouye had by telegram expressed himself satisfied therewith; but Mr. Goshida added that the subject must be passed upon by the Daijo Kwan (Imperial Council) before a final answer could be given me on the subject, but that he considered it altogether probable that the Daijo Kwan would consent to an order to pay both Batchelor's bond and also the bond of H. Fogg & Co, given on account

of

of the Valetta claim in U. S. gold dollars.

I had been verbally informed that a telegraphic remittance had been sent to the U. S by the Minister of Finance to pay this bond of Mr. Batchelder in gold coin less the exchange between Mexican dollars and gold coin; that the bond was held by Col. Batchelder in Washington as assignee of J. M. Batchelder, the original holder, I had also been notified ~~x~~ further that it was desirable that the same should be paid there. I considered it both just and advisable that it should be paid in the U. S. to the assignee as the

the bond was on its face assignable and had been assigned as I am informed upon good consideration, though he considered that the bond was in law made payable here.

Having been advised by Mr. Yoshida that the decision of the Daijo Kwan would probably be made to-day I have deferred closing this despatch to the latest moment before sending my mail to Yokohama for the outgoing steamer, in the hope that I might be officially informed thereof.

As soon as I am advised of the final decision of the Imperial Council, I will ac-

- quaint

-quaint you thereof by telegraph
in accordance with your in-
-struction.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Jno. A. Bingham

Wm F. Wharton
June 19 93
Cipher

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

RECEIVED
JUN
16
1883
DEPT. OF STATE

FROM Toledo

1883

Secretary Frelinghuysen.
Washington.

Will pay it in gold.

Bingham.

ed 188 , , M

Operator.

Acknowledges receipt of dispatch July 18, 83 Calder

Mr. Denby

No. 1697.

U. S. Legation. Japan.

Tokei. June 19th 1883.

Mr. Bingham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Payment of the claim of Mr. J. M. Batchelder by the Japanese Government in U. S. Gold dollars.

No. 1697. U. S. Legation.

Tokei, Japan, June 19th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State.
Washington. D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my no. 1696 dated the 11th instant in which I had the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your telegraphic instruction in relation to the construction of the bond of Mr. J. M. Batchelder, I now beg leave to acquaint you that on the 15th instant this government in answer to my verbal representation of your views agreed to pay the bond in U. S. gold dollars and also furnished me a copy of a telegraphic instruction

which

which was forwarded on that day by this government to the Japan-ese Consul in New York direct-ing him to pay to the order of Richard N. Batchelder, the assignee of said bond the full amount thereof $40000 in U. S. gold coin.

In accordance with your tel-egraphic instructions I answered by telegraph on the 16th instant in the words following:-

From Bingham

To Secretary Frelinghuysen.

Washington.

Will pay it in gold.

It gives me pleasure also to add that this government has informed me of its readiness to pay the "Valetta" claim of H. Fogg & Co.

to

to their agent here in U. S. gold dollars or in Japanese silver yen to an amount equivalent to U. S. gold dollars at the current premium of U. S. gold in Yokohama.

I have given the agent of Messers. H. T. Fogg & Co, who holds the bond notice of this decision of His Majesty's Government.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Wm. A Simpson

July

No. 1698.

U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei June 19th 1883.

Mr. Bingham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of Department instruction,

No. 736.

No. 1698. U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, June 19th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Department instruction No. 736 of date, the 18th of May 1883 in relation to the case of the Diana.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

No. 1698.

Mr. King

Furn. copies of Treaty
& Navy Dept.
July 17 83

Furn. copies of Treaty
& Treasury Dept.
July 17 1883.
Order

U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, June 19th 1883.

Hon. Brigham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Enclosure & copies of Notice
to Mariners. Mikomoto Light
and Rokkosaki Light.

No. 169. U. S. Legation Japan.

Tokei. June 19th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to enclose for the information of our Naval and Merchant service copies of the several notices to Mariners, issued by the Imperial Government of Japan dated respectively the 8th and 12th instant the former notifying the Mikomoto light, the latter notifying the Rokkosaki light Cape Noto.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

Copies of the notice to mariners.

Mitsumoto light.

Copies of the notice to mariners.

Rokkosaki light. (Cape Noto)

Returned by Mr. Hunter - Dec'r 19, 1888. July 19 1888. Chester

darkening

Note. You may keep this for his own use.

No. 1700.

U.S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, June 19th 1888.

Mr. Bingham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Request to be permitted to accept a printed copy of the Protocols of the Conference for the revision of the treaties presented to Mr. Bingham for his private use.

No. 1700. U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, June 19th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

His Excellency Mr. Goshida Hio Majesty's acting Minister for Foreign Affairs has unofficially tendered me for my personal use a printed copy of the several protocols of the Conference for the revision of the Japanese treaties, corresponding in all respects to the copies thereof which I have heretofore forwarded to the Department and also with the copies thereof which I have deposited

in

in this Legation.

I would respectfully request that I may be permitted by your leave to retain the copies thus presented to me as my own prop-erty and for my private use only.

Although I do not consider these pa-pers thus presented to me as official com-munications received by me either from our own government or any other source within the meaning of the XIVth paragraph Personal Instruc-tions; I deem it my duty not to re-tain them as my own for my pri-vate use without your special leave which I am of the opinion, it is within your discretion to grant. My sole desire in the matter is to be pos-sessed with your consent of the written record of the conference for reference here and at home.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Wm. H. Seward

No. 1

U.S. Legation

Tokei Japan July 2nd 1883

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I beg leave to enclose the Statement of my account for Salary as Interpreter to this Legation from the 7th of May last the day upon which I qualified and entered upon duty as such Interpreter to the 30th ultimo both inclusive, that is to say for the period of fifty five (55) days

I drew for that period of time only, on Messrs Morton Rose & Co of date the 30th ultimo on account of Salary in the sum of £ 77.12.5 — Sterling and sold the same on that day to the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking

Banking Corporation Yokohama for which I received at the current rate of exchange, as shewn by the Certificate of said Banking Corporation herewith enclosed, the equivalent of $377.74 U.S. Gold and no more.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Obedient Servant

Willis Norton Whitney

Interpreter to the

U.S. Legation

2

Enclosures

Statement of account for Salary

May 7th 1883 - June 30th 1883

Certificate of Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Co. for purchase of draft for Equivalent of $ 377.74 U.S. Gold.

Mr King

from "G Treasury July 17, 1883 Circ."

No. 1701.

U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, June 21st 1883.

Mr. Bingham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Monthly return for April 1883.

of the foreign trade of the Empire

of Japan.

No. 1701.

U. S. Legation Japan.

Tokei, June 21st 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to enclose for the information of the Treasury Department a copy of the "Monthly return of the foreign trade of the Empire of Japan" for April last.

I enclosed a like copy with my No. 1693, of date the 11th instant, for your information.

I have the honor to be. Sir.

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure. under separate cover. Monthly return of foreign trade of Japan for April/83.

Mr Comm / ack - assume and say Mr Bingham is to be congratulated on happy result
Loaded Oct 5 8m
Oct 5 cirtle
Comm
Oct 4 1883

No 1702.

U. S. Legation. Japan.
Tokei. July 2nd 1883.

Mr. Bingham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Payment of the "Valetta" claim to the Agent of H. Fogg & Co in full satisfaction by the Japanese Government.

No. 1702. U.S. Legation in Japan.

Tokei, July 2nd 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:

In relation to the payment of the "Valetta" Claim of H. Fogg Esq calling for Eight thousand dollars I have the honor to acquaint you that on the 29th instant the same was paid by His Imperial Japanese Majesty's government to the agent of H. Fogg Esq. in full in the equivalent of United States gold coin, that is to say by check on Yokohama to the order of H. Fogg Esq for the sum of Eight Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Eight dollars

-lars

-lars and seventy-six cents ($8988.76)
in Japanese silver yen. which
check I delivered on that day
to Mr. Frederick Bridge, the Agents
of H. Fogg Esq, who delivered to me
the original undertaking as executed
Oct. 8. 1880 by His Excellency Mr. Inou-
-ye on behalf of this government.
conditioned among other things
for the payment of $8000.00 to the
order of H. Fogg Esq, a copy of which
undertaking is herewith. 1/

His Majesty's Acting Minister for
Foreign Affairs had requested that
upon the agent of the said firm
of H. Fogg Esq surrendering the original
undertaking to me, I should deliver
to him the said check in payment
thereof. The Agent surrendered said
original

original undertaking to me on the receipt by him of said check and endorsed thereon "in full payment thereof,

On the same day I addressed a note to His Excellency Mr. Yoshida then Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, a copy of which is herewith, enclosing therein the original undertaking with full payment endorsed thereon as above stated. On the 30th instant Mr. Yoshida verbally informed me of the receipt of the undertaking with my note. I have not yet received a reply to my note but should it come before the closing of my mail, I will transmit a copy thereof herewith.

Said reply received 3d instant and copy enclosed.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosures.

No. 1. Copy of the original undertaking of Mr. Inouye in behalf of the Japanese Government to H. Fogg & Co dated Oct. 8th 1880.

No. 2. Mr. Bingham to Mr. Yoshida, dated June 29th 1883.

No. 3. Mr. Inouye to Mr. Bingham dated July 3d 1883.

Enclosure No. 1. to Mr. Bingham's No. 1702.

Copy.

Know all men by these Presents:
That whereas, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government, did on the Eighth day of October 1880 in pursuance of a verbal agreement in that behalf made pay to Mr. A. Fokes the agent of Messrs H. Tagg & Co as assignees of Messrs Case & Co, the sum of Four thousand dollars in full satisfaction and payment of Claim held by the said firm against His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government; and whereas it was at the time of said payment further agreed and understood, that a further sum of Eight thousand dollars should be paid the said firm by his Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government out of any money re-

-ceived

received by His Imperial Japan-
ese Majesty's Government in excess
of the said sum of Eight-thousand
dollars, which may hereafter be
paid to it by the Government of the
United States on account of the
Shimonoseki indemnity heretofore
paid by His Imperial Japanese
Majesty's Government to that of
the United States under the Con-
vention of October 22nd 1864, and
whereas it was at the same time
expressly understood and agreed
that in the event the said indem-
nity or a portion thereof in excess
of the said sum of Eight-thousand
dollars is not returned to His
Imperial Japanese Majesty's Gov-
ernment by that of the United
States

States as aforesaid, no portion of the said Eight thousand dollars shall become due and payable to Messrs H. Fogg & Co.

Now therefore, Know ye, that for and in Consideration of the foregoing premises, the undersigned hereby agrees to pay to the order of H. Fogg & C the sum of Eight thousand dollars upon the receipt by the Japanese Government of any money in excess of the said sum of Eight thousand dollars, which may be paid to it by the Government of the United States on account of the Shimonoseki indemnity heretofore paid by the Japanese Government to that of the United States under the Convention of October

October 22nd 1864, it being understood that said Eight-thousand dollars is not to be paid to said H. Fogg &C. until and unless such payment shall be made by the United States Government to that of Japan, as above stated, on account of said indemnity.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal this eighth day of October 1880

(Signed)

Iwaye Kaoru

L. S.

Enclosure No. 2. to Hon. Bingham's No. 1702.

Copy.

No. 2077 U. S. Legation

Tokei Japan June 29th 1883

His Excellency

Yoshida Kiyonari

H. I. J. M's Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs

Sir:

Referring to Your Excellency's dis-
patch in translation dated the 28th
inst. with which you enclosed a
check dated the 26th instant calling for
Eight-thousand nine hundred and
eighty eight-76/100 (8988 76/100) Silver Yen
payable on demand to the order of
H. Tozzo & Co, drawn upon the Mitsui
Bank Yokohama by Gokura Morito
Chief Secretary of the Accountant Generals'
Bureau of the Finance Department of

His

His Imperial Japanese Majesty's
Government, which Check being the
Equivalent of $8000 00 U.S. Gold,
you requested me to deliver to the
legally authorized agent of Messrs
H. Fogg & Co upon the surrender of the
undertaking entered into by his
Excellency Inouye Kaoru on behalf
of H. I. J. M's Government to said
H. Fogg & Co of date the 8th day of
October A.D. 1880 for the payment
of $8000 upon the condition therein
Specified :-
I now have the honor to acquaint
you that I have this day delivered
to Frederick Bridge the legally -
authorized agent of said H. Fogg & Co,
said Check, and have received from
said Bridge, the said original
undertaking

undertaking of Mr. Inouye upon which you will observe is in= dorsed by H. Fogg & Co. per their said agent, an acknowledgment of the receipt of said Check in "full payment" of said undertaking = which acknowledgment so endorsed upon said undertaking (which is enclosed herewith) is in the words following:

" We hereby acknowledge full
"payment of the within obligation
"by Check payable on demand to
"our order dated June 26th 1883 =
"drawn on the Mitsui Bank Yokohama
"by Yokura Moito Chief Secretary
"of the Accountant General's Bureau
"of the Finance Department of His
"Imperial Japanese Majestys =
Government

"Government- calling for Eight-thou=
=and nine hundred and eighty eight
"and 76/100 Silver Yen. Yokei Japan
"
"Attest June 29th 1883
signed
Jno A Bingham Signed H. Fogg & Co
" "per Fredk. Bridge
"
"their agent"

It only remains for me to thank Your Excellency for so promptly closing the claim known as the Valella Claims", and on account of which the Conditional undertaking herewith enclosed was executed by Mr. Inouye.

Accept the renewed assurance of my highest- consideration

Signed Jno A Bingham

Enclosure The original undertaking of Mr. Inouye in behalf of the Japanese Government- to H. Fogg & Co dated 8th Oct 1880

Enclosure No. 3. to Mr. Bingham's No. 1702.

Translation

No 33. Foreign Office, Tokio.
Copy. The 3rd the 7th month
the 16th year Meiji.

His Excellency
John A. Bingham,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the U. S. A.
Sir,

I have had the honor to receive Your Excellency's notes dated the 28th and 29th ultimo. In the former You acknowledge the receipt of a check for the sum of eight thousand nine hundred eighty eight and $\frac{76}{100}$ ($8,988\frac{76}{100}$) silver yen, being the

equivalent

equivalent of eight thousand ($8,000) dollars U. S. gold, payable to the order of H. Fogg & Co. which was transmitted to Your Excellency under cover of a note from this Department dated the 28th. ultimo, in satisfaction of the undertaking executed by me on behalf of H. I. M's Government and in the latter You state that on the 29th. ultimo You delivered the check to Mr. Frederick Bridge, the legally authorized agent of H. Fogg & Co, upon the surrender of the undertaking and an acknowledgment of the receipt of said check in full payment of the claim of H. Fogg & Co. which undertaking

with

with the acknowledgment attested by Your Excellency duly endorsed thereon You enclose.

I beg Your Excellency to accept my thanks for the trouble You have taken in this matter.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

Inouye Kaoru,
H. I. J. M's Minister for
Foreign Affairs.

Consular Service

No 1708

Acted. sending letter for sig. Aug 4, 1883. Cir'd'r.

Mr Wing

Letter of Credit sent Mr Whitney Aug 7, 1883 FM

U. S. Legation Japan

Tokei July 2nd 1883

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State

Subject: Mr. Whitney's Salary

Synopsis:

Mr. Willis R. Whitney Interpreter having entered on his duties May 7th draws for his salary for the fraction of the quarter only, in absence of instructions

Mr. Bingham advises Messrs Rose & Co, and requests the Department to inform him of the number of Mr. Whitney's letter of Credit.

No 1703

U.S. Legation

Tokei Japan 2nd July 1883

Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I beg leave to acquaint you that Mr. Willis M. Whitney Interpreter to this Legation having qualified and entered upon his official duties on the 7th of May last, whereof I had the honor to inform you in my No. 1674 of date the 8th of May last, did upon my suggestion draw an account of his salary for the fraction of the 2nd quarter of the current year, to wit; for the period of fifty five (55) days on Morton Rose & Co his bill for £77.12.5. that being the pro rata for his

his salary at the rate of $2500 per annum.

In giving Mr. Whitney this advice I assumed that Messrs Morton Rose & Co had been notified by the Department of the appointment and qualification of Mr. Whitney as Interpreter.

Although Mr. Whitney's appointment ante-dates the commencement of the current quarter I did not feel at liberty in the absence of any instruction from the Department to advise him to draw for more than the fraction of the quarter from the day of his qualification to wit— May 7th last. In thus advising him I followed the rule which I adopted in Mr. Fraziers case as shewn by My No 1463 of date March 31st 1882

1882. I have ~~the~~ in this instance, as in that, not being informed that a letter of Credit has been forwarded by the Department to Messrs Morton Rose & Co, requested of them that the bill be protected and advised them of the fact of Mr. Whitney's appointment and qualification. In case the Department has not issued its letter of Credit to Mr. Whitney I respectfully request that it may be issued to him, that he may know the number thereof when drawing on account of his salary hereafter.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Obedient Servant

Jno A. Bingham

Rec'd

Wong

No. 1704.

U. S. Legation, Japan,
Tokei, July 3d 1883.

Mr. Bingham,
To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

The claim of Capt. Wm R. Brown against the Japanese government.

No. 1704. U. S. Legation Japan.

Tokei, July 3d 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I beg leave to reply to your No. 731, of date the 23d of April last, in relation to the claim of Captain Wm R. Brown to say that in view of the fact as shown by my correspondence with your Honorable predecessor Mr. Evarts disclosing fully my action and that of this government in the premises, that His Excellency Mr. Inouye His Imperial Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs reported the decision of his govern-

- ment

-ment that the claim was "definetively
" rejected", and in consideration
of the fact that Mr. Inouye for
the past month has been absent
at Kioto, a distant city of the
Empire waiting upon His Excellency
Mr. Iwakura, who, I regret to say,
seems to be near his end, —

I have thought it best to defer
and therefore have deferred a re-
-opening of the question until
Mr. Inouye's return to his post
of duty believing that no action
on the subject would be taken in
his absence and believing further
that it would be more advisable
to open the question in a personal
interview with him.

On the 30th ultimo I called on
Mr.

Mr. Drouyn, the day following his return, with a view to invite his attention to a reconsideration of the claim, but found him at home with friends, and that he had not resumed the duties of his office.

I remarked to him that I greatly desired a personal interview with him at an early day to which he replied that he would be pleased to see me towards the close of the incoming week if possible.

Although I expressed fully to him in my former efforts to to obtain satisfaction of this claim, that in my opinion mere lapse of time could not relieve a govern-

-ment

-ment from its just obligations
to make reparation for a wrong
done, in violation of treaty rights,
to a friendly power or to its cit-
-izens, I hope now in view of
the recent generous action of
my government towards that
of Japan to be able to induce
this government to reconsider
its rejection of the claim, and
am not without hope that some
satisfactory conclusion may be
reached. So far as I am advised
this is the only unadjusted claim
having merit which has been presented
by our government against that of Japan.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno. A. Bingham

acl

acted aug 1, 1883
order

Mr Wing

No. 1705.

M. S. Legation Japan.

Tokei. July 3d 1883.

Mr. Denigham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Comments of the British Press on the transfer of Sir Harry S. Parkes as Envoy to the Chinese Government.

No. 1705. U.S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 8d 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington. D.C.

Sir:

I beg leave to communicate for your information a correspondence recently published in the Pall Mall Gazette, which was reproduced in yesterday's Japan Daily Herald, from which I cut the enclosed slip, concerning the appointment of Sir Harry S. Parkes to be Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty in China. The policy of Great Britain in China, I think it safe to say, is

substantially

substantially the policy hitherto and still pursued by that power in Japan of which I have often made mention in my dispatches.

Sir Harry S. Parkes has, during his eighteen years of service in Japan in the quality of Envoy, proved himself an efficient agent in the prosecution of the harsh policy of his government and will I have no doubt give entire satisfaction to his government in China.

Since writing the above I am in receipt of another article on the subject from the London Standard republished in the Japan Daily Mail of this date, a copy from which

2/

is

is herewith enclosed.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Wm. A. Bingham

Enclosures.

No. 1. Printed slip from Japan Daily Herald. dated July 2nd 1883.

No. 2. Printed slip from Japan Daily Mail, dated July 3d 1883.

Enclosure No. 1 to Mr. Bingham's No 1705

From Johan Daily Herald. dated July 2 1883

THE following correspondence appears in recent numbers of the *Pall Mall Gazette* :—

SIR HARRY PARKES AND THE CHINESE WARS.

To the E itor.

SIR,—In one of your Occasional Notes you observe that there is nothing improbable in the story telegraphed from Paris that the Chinese Government is disinclined to accept Sir Harry Parkes as the new Envoy to Peking, and you add that the Chinese can hardly be blamed for desiring to keep as far from them as possible the official who brought two wars on them a quarter of a century ago. You are always so manifestly anxious, Sir, to deal fairly by all men, that I shall not apologize for troubling you with a letter in deprecation of your statement of what you believe to be fact, and of the inference you base upon your belief. It is no secret, I imagine, that Sir Harry Parkes will succeed me as Minister, and without any pretension to clairvoyance, I more than suspect that the Government of China has offered no objection whatever to his nomination. As to the hostilities with the course of which his name is historically connected, whatever the merits of the quarrel between England and China, a question upon which opinion is greatly divided, and which I do not propose to take up your space in discussing, the responsibility of those hostilities must be laid upon broader shoulders. The seizure of the lorcha *Arrow* at Canton, which led to the first act of war, took place, if I am not mistaken, on the 6th of October, 1856. The first gun was fired by the Admiral, Sir Michael Seymour, upon the 26th of October. Sir Harry, then Mr. Parkes, was acting Consul at Canton. The head-quarters of his Minister, Sir John Bowring, were at Hong Kong, and there was even then communication every twelve hours between Canton and the Colony. There was no step taken by the Consul which was not either dictated or cordially approved by his Minister, whose policy, it is but fair to Sir John Bowring to remark, was practically in the end adopted by Lord Elgin. No man, I am satisfied, was less an advocate of coercion than Lord Elgin, and it was not without a struggle that he could bring himself to approve resort to it in China or elsewhere. But it was by his authority that the city of Canton was captured in 1857, and that the forts of Taku were taken in 1858. Sir Harry Parkes was chosen by him after the fall of Canton to act as the civilian member of the commission of three which was formed for the maintenance of order in the city during its occupation; and well he justified the choice. Lord Elgin's treaty signed at Tientsin in June, 1858, closed the first of what I assume is referred to as the two wars.

The second commenced at the mouth of the Peiho in 1859, when Sir Frederick Bruce presented himself with this treaty for ratification. The causes of the collision in question have been as hotly debated as the lorcha *Arrow* affair itself. I refer to it only to be enabled to point out that Sir Harry Parkes, when it occurred, was still at Canton, two thousand miles away. The expedition of 1860 followed, politically under the direction of Lord Elgin, and the troops were in the act of disembarking before Sir Harry Parkes appeared on the scene. He had been summoned by Lord Elgin, on account of his known ability, from Canton to the Peiho. His capture, six weeks later, was effected during an armistice as to the negotiation of which there can be no doubt, and which the foreign force had done nothing to violate; and what followed in the way of hostility was but the inevitable consequence of its violation.

You may accept my testimony. I am not in general credited with unfriendly feeling towards China. During a long term of office, on the contrary, I have been pretty constantly accused of a bias in favour of the Chinese. Our intercourse with China is nowadays so differently conditioned that it is not without repugnance that I recur to the disaccords of former years, and I have endeavoured to limit my reference to them to just so much of explanation as appears to me required to meet the charge preferred against Sir Harry Parkes in your paper. People here in England can scarcely picture to themselves to what an extent the difficulties of a Minister in a difficult post ten thousand miles from home may be aggravated by the criticisms of our watchful press; and when these, as will sometimes happen, are based upon imperfect information, it may be imagined how seriously his load must be added to by the apprehension that, while he is unjustly assailed, he has no friend on the spot sufficiently conversant with the facts to be able to state authoritatively the *pars altera* of his case. This is my excuse for appealing to you.—I am, Sir your obedient servant,

May 10. THOMAS FRANCIS WADE.

To the EDITOR.

SIR,—In your columns there is a letter from Sir Thomas Wade defending the nomination of Sir Harry Parkes to the post of Minister at Peking against the criticism which appeared there based on information from Paris that the Chinese Government was disposed to object to his appointment. You stated that the objection was not an unreasonable one, as the Chinese looked upon him as the official who brought upon them two wars a quarter of a century ago. The first of these grew, as Sir Thomas Wade states, out of the seizure of the lorcha *Arrow* at Canton in 1856. Sir Harry Parkes was then acting Consul at Canton, and the whole case was in his hands from the first. All the demands on the Chinese authorities were made in his name; and although he was supported by the Minister, Sir John Bowring, it is important to recollect that Sir Harry Parkes was alone in direct communication with the Chinese authorities; that all the information sent down to Hong Kong, where the Minister resided, came through his hands; and that when the case was finally handed over to Admiral Seymour to exact redress, it was the Consul and not the Minister who issued the Proclamation notifying the course taken to the inhabitants of Canton. Sir Thomas Wade contends that the responsibility rests with Sir John Bowring, who directed and approved the steps taken. No doubt that is the view the Foreign Office would take of the matter; but this does not touch your contention that the Chinese, from ignorance, no doubt, of foreign official regulations, have always attributed their troubles to the agent on the spot. As regards the war of 1860 it is quite true, as Sir Thomas Wade states, that Sir Harry Parkes was at Canton, two thousand miles away, when Sir F. Bruce was repulsed at the mouth of the Peiho in 1859. He, however, accompanied the army to Peking; he was taken prisoner by the Chinese; and it was in consequence of the treatment he and his fellow prisoners received that the famous Summer Palace, which contained all that was most valuable of the treasures of the Imperial Court, was sacked and burned. Further, it would not be difficult to show from the Blue-books that Sir Harry Parkes was believed by the Chinese to occupy a very high position and to possess very great influence at the British camp, and at least to have it in his power to stop the onward movement of the British army. Sir Thomas Wade says with truth that he is very generally credited with friendly feelings towards China, and it is in keeping with his well-known chivalrous character that he has come forward to support the claims of an old colleague. But it is for the Government to consider whether it is wise to persist in the appointment of a Minister whose name would be associated by the Empress Regent with the destruction of her palace and her own enforced flight from her capital; and whose coming, as you have remarked, cannot be otherwise than distasteful to the Chinese Government,—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

May 14. SINENSIS.

To the EDITOR,

SIR,—There are versions of history which, albeit technically correct, are yet misleading. I incline to think that reference to Admiral Sir Michael Seymour might elicit a supplement to Sir Thomas Wade's account of the origin of our last war with China, showing it may be that it was to Sir H. Parkes's advice that the outbreak in 1857 was directly due. The positive assurances he conveyed to the Admiral that a single shot fired at the city wall from one of H.M. ships would bring the Chinese to their knees induced the Admiral, in unquestioning reliance upon Sir H. Parkes's assumed knowledge of habits of thought, to act upon that marvellous advice, to his subsequent dismay and regret. This was openly stated in Hong Kong at the time, and I have never heard it contradicted.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

May 15. PHILO-SINENSIS.

Enclosure No. 2. to Mr. Bingham's No 1705.

Extract from Japan Daily Mail, dated July 3rd 1883.

The *Standard* comments as follows:—

The critical state of the relations between France and China, which promises to affect, more or less directly, the interest of all foreigners, renders the appointment of so experienced a diplomatist as Sir Harry Parkes to the post of Minister at Peking a matter of general satisfaction. The retirement of Sir Thomas Wade, after having represented this country in China during nearly twenty years, with great distinction to himself and with marked advantage to the cause of international harmony, naturally raised feelings of anxiety as to who could worthily takes his place, and carry on the policy of friendship which has, fortunately, endured between the two countries since the last war with China. The appointment of Sir Harry Parkes allays that anxiety, and removes the doubts as to whether the right policy would be conducted with that intimate knowledge of Chinese etiquette, and that unfailing tact and temper, which have characterised the diplomatic career of Sir Thomas Wade. The policy cannot be dissociated from the man; and it is impossible to say how far our satisfactory relations with the Celestials have been due to Sir Thomas Wade, rather than to the instructions issued by the Foreign Office. Certainly, on more than one occasion, nothing but Sir Thomas Wade's urbanity and timely firmness have averted a quarrel which, with less skillful treatment, would have resulted in war. The appointment of an inexperienced or self-confident man to this most difficult and exceptional post in our Diplomatic Service would, at such an important conjuncture as the present, have been nothing less than a national calamity, for it is impossible to say how important may be the issues involved in pursuing the best possible policy with regard to China during a foreign complication. Such apprehensions can, fortunately, now be banished, as in the hands of Sir Harry Parkes our diplomatic relations with the Chinese will be conducted with the same intimate knowledge of their language and etiquette as has been the case under Sir Thomas Wade. It seldom happens that a country is so fortunate as to procure the consecutive services in the same post of two such highly-gifted and exceptionally experienced men as the Diplomatists who had the conduct of our relations with the two great nations of the Far East for the better portion of the period since our entry into Peking in 1860. If we add to these names that of Sir Rutherford Alcock, whose wide experience of China and Japan has enabled him to give sound advice and prudent guidance to those at home, we have mentioned the persons to whom satisfactory position of our affairs in China and Japan is mainly due. There is no way, of course, of estimating the subtle influence and the wide effect produced on the mind of the Chinese people by the splendid services and unusual self-abnegation of General Gordon, although they must not be denied their place among the chief contributing circumstances to the existing harmony and good-will between England and China. The transfer of Sir Harry Parkes from Tokio to Peking has some special features of interest that do not belong to the usual changes in our Diplomatic Service. If we regard the matter from its highest point of view, it will be seen that Sir Harry Parkes' magnanimous forgetfulness of the past, and his admirable devotion to the call of duty, are singularly expressive of the inestimable improvement that has taken place in our relations with China since he was made prisoner at Tungchow. At that time China was in our eyes a barbarous country, with the most antiquated ideas, coupled with an exalted opinion of its own greatness. It was thought that its decrepit power would crumble away at the first contact with the vigorous systems of Europe, and that it would be no difficult task for us to oust the Tartar dynasty, and to place on the Dragon Throne some puppet Prince, with an English Resident as his principal Minister. These views have been modified, if not wholly changed. The natural strength and the reasonable policy of China are better known and fully appreciated. There is no desire in this country to injure Chinese interests, or to countenance with our sympathy any project for disturbing them. We are even anxious to deal gently with the pride and pretensions which the Celestial Ruler has inherited from his predecessors; and we cannot afford stronger proof of our desire to let bygones be bygones than we are now doing by sending Sir Harry Parkes to represent the Sovereign of England in China under fairer auspices than ever attended the arrival at her capital of a foreign Mission on a footing of independence and of equal rights.

No. 1706.

Transmitted Aug 1. 1883. Chilton

Mining

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 30 1883
RECEIVED

U.S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 3d 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Transmission of Meteorological Reports for use of the Signal Service.

No. 1706. U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 3d 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to transmit for the information of the Signal Service daily reports of the Imperial Meteorological Observatory at Tokei for the past month with weather maps.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure under separate cover reports above mentioned.

received
Aug 1, 1883.
Exhibit.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL
30
1883
RECEIVED

U.S. Legation Japan.
Tokei, July 5th 1883.

Mr. Goward.

To the Secretary of State

Subject.

Request for simple leave of absence for sixty days or so much thereof as may be necessary from the 1st of September.

Approved by Mr. Bingham.

U. S. Legation. Japan.
Tokei. July 5th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State.
Washington. D. C.

Sir:

By reason of the great distance of this post from Washington and the long time necessarily consumed in obtaining an answer I beg leave to anticipate and to prepare for an emergency by asking for simple leave of absence for sixty days, or so much thereof as may be utilized, to take effect on or after the 1st day of September. 1883., subject to the necessities of the Legation, should it then be found feasible to be absent from my duties at Tokei.

I

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gustavus Goward

Secretary of Legation.

The foregoing is approved by me this 5th day of July 1883

Wm. A. Leighton

U.S. Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 30 1883
RECEIVED

U. S. Legation Japan.
Tokei. July 5th 1883.

Mr. Goward,
To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Salary account. enclosing statement of account of Salary in transit and also of account of Salary for fractional quarter ending June 30th 1883.

FM

U. S. Legation Japan.

Tokei, July 5th 1883

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith my account with the U. S. Government covering the period for salary in transit from the United States to Japan from Feb. 28th 1883 to April 3d 1883 inclusive, thirty-five days at the rate of $2500 per annum, amounting to $242.81 for which I have drawn upon Morton, Rose & Co. London under date of May 11th 1883 for £49. 17s, 11d which said draft is supported by exchange voucher accompanying dated May 12th 1883: — and also

for

for my regular salary covering the the period from April 4th 1883 to June 30th 1883, eighty-eight days at the rate of $2500 per annum amount-ing to $604.39 for which I have drawn upon Morton Rose Hes, London under date of June 29th 1883 for £124.9s.11d which said draft is supported by exchange voucher accompanying dated June 30th 1883.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Gustavus Goward.

Secretary of Legation.

Enclosure.

Statement of account of salary in transit and also of account of fractional salary for second quarter 1883 - end-ing June 30th 1883

No. 1707.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 30 1883
RECEIVED

U.S. Legation Japan
Tokei. July 5th 1883.

Hon. Bingham
To the Secretary of State.

Subject.
Salary account for second quarter ending June 30th 1883.

No 1707 U.S Legation

Tokei Japan 5th July 1883

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to enclose statement and abstract of my account for salary and contingent expenses for the 2nd quarter of the current year by which you will please observe that on the 30th ultimo I drew my bill for salary on Messrs Morton, Rose & Co, London for £616 .. 9 .. 2 Sterling and sold the same on that day to the Oriental Bank Corporation Yokohama for which I received at the current rate of exchange (as per Bankers Certificate herewith) the

the equivalent of three thousand dollars United States Gold, and no more, and that I also drew my bill of like date for contingencies on said Morton Rose & Co for £ 4/11/11. Sterling and sold the same to said Oriental Bank Corporation for which I received as per the Bankers said Certificate, herewith, at the current rate of exchange, the equivalent of two hundred dollars U.S. Gold and no more.

A reference to my account and to the several Vouchers herewith

12 numbered respectively from 1 to 6 will shew that I have credited the Government with balance in my hands as shewn by my account for the first quarter of the current year

year as per my No. 1660 of date the 4th of April last with the sum of $129 43/100 U.S. Gold and also that I have Credited the Government with proceeds of my two bills for Salary and for Contingent expenses to the amount of $3200.00 U.S. Gold Making a total Credit to this date to the Government to the Amount of $3329 43/100, and it is also shewn by my account herewith that I have debited the government as follows: for my Salary for the 2nd quarter of 1883 - $3000 U.S. Gold, for Contingent Expenses paid by me for said 2nd Quarter $166.10 amounting in gross to the sum $.3166.10 and leaving a balance in my hands to be accounted for at the End of the 3rd quarter of the Current year as

aforesaid

amounting to the sum of U. S.
Gold $163.33

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Obedient Servant
Wm H Shipherd

Enclosures.

No. 1. Statement of the salary account for the 2nd Quarter 1883

No. 2

Contingent expense account with Vouchers for the 2nd Quarter 1883

No. 1708.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 30 1883
RECEIVED

U. S. Legation, Japan.
Tokei, July 5th 1883.

Mr. Brigham,
To the Secretary of State.

Subject.
Receipt of instructions numbered respectively 737, 738 with enclosure, 739 and 740.

No. 1708. U.S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July. 5th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington. D.C.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your instructions numbered respectively 737, 738 with enclosure, 739, and 740.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno A. Bingham

Mr Scarlet
+
Mr Bing

No. 1709.

U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei. July 9th 1883.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Monthly return of the foreign trade of the Empire of Japan for the month of May. 1883.

No. 1709. U.S. Legation in Japan.

Tokei, July 9th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State,

Washington. D.C.

Sir:

I beg leave to enclose for your information and also for the information of the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury four several copies of the "Monthly Return of the Foreign Trade of the Empire of Japan." for the month of May 1883. By this return it appears, page 1, that the export of commodities for the month was of the value in yen 2,435,066.00; and that the value of the imports thereof for the month was in yen 2.646.369, showing an excess

of

of imports over exports to the amount in yen 211.302 oo.

It also appears, page 3, that the total export of specie and bullion for the month was in yen 424.658 oo, and that the total import thereof was in yen 119.000 shewing that the export thereof was in excess of the imports to the amount in yen. 305.658.

It further appears, page 2. that the total customs duties collected from the imports for the month amounted in yen to 128.331 oo shewing that the yearly customs duties on a like monthly importation would in round numbers yield a revenue in yen of about one million and a half.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your Obedient Servant

Wm. A. Burlingame

Enclosure under separate cover
Monthly return May 83
of the foreign Trade.

No. 1710.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 13 1883
RECEIVED

U. S. Legation Japan,
Tokei, July 9th 1883.

Hon. Brigham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Transmission of duplicate dal-
-ary Account with vouchers, and
duplicate Contingent Expense ac-
-count with Vouchers and sub-vouchers
for 2nd quarter 1883.

No 1710. U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 9th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my No. 1707 of date the 5th instant with which I had the honor to enclose my account with the necessary vouchers, for salary and contingent expenses for the second quarter of the current year, I now beg leave to enclose herewith a duplicate of my said account with the vouchers for the same.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno C. Bringham

Enclosures.

Enclosures 2.

No. 1. Statement of Delany account with exchange Voucher for 2nd Quarter 1883. Duplicate.

No. 2. Statement of contingent expenses for the 2nd Quarter 1883 with six (6) Vouchers and Sub-Vouchers-

Mr Wing.

Ack'd aug 24 83 Cr. Ltr.

To Commissioner of Agriculture aug. 14, 1883. Cr. Ltr.

No. 1711.

U. S. Legation, Japan.
Tokei, July 9th 1883.

Mr. Bingham
To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Letter of Mr. Tsuda, transmitting to the Commissioner of Agriculture seeds and photographs of the bamboo of Japan.

No 1711.

U. S. Legation Japan.

Tokei, July 9th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acquaint you that I have recently received from Mr. Tsuda, a respectable Japanese, resident near this city, a letter with which he transmitted a small package of bamboo seeds and also photographs of the flower, and of a branch of the seed, all of which together with a copy of Mr. Tsuda's letter I beg leave to enclose herewith for the information of the Honorable Commissioner of Agriculture.

There

There are many kinds of bamboo in-
-digenous to this country - This tree
is applied to a greater variety of uses
than any other wood known to Japan.
It is used for matting in beds, for cloth-
-ing, for sandals, for fencing, for food,
for fuel, for water pipes, (its trunk be-
-ing hollow), for houses, for ornamental
purposes etc, etc,

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

M. C. Brigham

Enclosures

No. 1. Copy of Letter of Mr. Tsuda to Mr. Brigham
dated, Tokio, June 30th 1883.

No. 2. Photographs, and bamboo
seeds enclosed in a bamboo
box herewith under a separate cover.

Enclosure No. 1. to Hon. Bingham's No. 1714.

Copy.

Azabu, Tokio, Japan, June 30th 1883.

His Excellency,

Hon. John A. Bingham.

Dear Sir:

Several years ago while General Le Duc was Commissioner of Agriculture in the United States, I had the pleasure of sending by his order many kinds of Japanese trees, and plants for propagation;- most of them, especially the persimmon, were successful. Among the plants he wished to introduce was the bamboo, which is so indispensable in Japan, in so many ways and very valuable anywhere. An attempt was made, but was unsuccessful, because the bamboo can not be transplanted by the root

root alone, but must have the stem and branches. The great trouble in transporting and the expensive freight prevented having many introduced.

General Le Duc is no longer in office, but his successor, I have ventured to suppose may be interested in such things. I therefore take the liberty of addressing you this letter, and submitting the following fact.

It is not well known that the bamboo flowers and seeds once in about thirty or forty years, after which it dies. Last year and this year, but particularly now, the seeds have been abundantly produced, and I have found on trial that these seeds grow well. I enclose some specimens

-mens of seeds which are not yet ripe, but which ought to have ripened shortly. I send also photograph of the flower, and one of a branch of seed, taken last year.

I have thought the Commissioner of Agriculture might like to know of the fact about the bamboo seeds, and perhaps to try them in the United States, as by this means the bamboo is introduced by a simple and inexpensive process.

I am able to procure seeds of many varieties and should be very glad to send any to the United States, if they should be disposed to try them. If the climate is favorable, the spread of these trees would be an easy matter.

I

I am able to procure seeds of many va-
-rieties and should be very glad to send
any to the United States, if they should
be disposed to try them. If the climate
is favorable the spread of these trees
would be an easy matter.

I trust you will find this worth no-
-tice, and hope the trial of the seeds
may be thought favorable of. I beg
that you will act, as you think best
in regard to the matter

Allow me to subscribe myself.

Your Obedient Servant.

(signed) S. Tsuda —

Mr. Wang.

No 1712.

U.S. Legation, Japan.
Tokei. July 10th 1883.

Mr. Bingham,

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Relations of Great Britain and China in connection with Sir Harry S. Parkes.

No. 1712. U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 10th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Washington. D. C.

Sir.

Referring to my No. 1705 of date the 3d instant, in which I had the honor to enclose for your information slips cut from the Japan Herald and the Japan Mail, of certain correspondence therein published concerning Sir. Harry Parkes and the conflicts of Great Britain with China, I now beg leave to enclose an additional article on the same subject, originally published in the Pall Mall Gazette over the signature of Henry B. Loch, dated

17th

17th of May last and republished in the Japan Gazette (an English Journal at Yokohama) on the 9th instant.

I think it due to the truth of history and also due to my colleague Sir Harry Parkes to place this paper of Mr. Loch's on record. The facts therein stated and also in the other articles enclosed in my No. 1705 shew clearly in my opinion the aggressive policy of Great Britain towards China, and as clearly shew I doubt not that Sir Harry Parkes in all that he advised or did in the premises but followed the instructions of his government and the directions of his superiors Lord Elgin and Sir John Bowring.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Your

Your Obedient Servant.

Mr. A. Bingham

Enclosure.

Extract from Japan Gazette, dated July 9th/83.

(To the Editor *Pall Mall Gazette.*)

Sir.—I trust you will allow me to add a few words to the remarks contained in Sir Thomas Wade's letter which appeared in your columns last week defending the nomination of Sir Harry Parkes to the post of Minister at Pekin, which is again called in question by "Sinensis," whose letter also appeared in your columns, on the ground that the Chinese Government can never forget the destruction of the Summer Palace, which was inflicted as a punishment for the treatment Sir Harry Parkes and his fellow-prisoners had received at the hands of the Chinese. Putting on one side that the correctness of any information coming at present from Paris should be accepted with much reserve which purports to represent the feelings and opinions of the Chinese Government on a question of this character, I may, of my own personal knowledge, affirm that the Chinese officials with whom Sir Harry Parkes during the latter part of his imprisonment came in contact, and with whom subsequent to his release the peace negotiations were conducted, were not only aware of the high estimation in which he was held by Lord Elgin, but were also equally alive to the fact that his influence was exerted in support of Lord Elgin's wise policy of moderation, which, notwithstanding a successful campaign ending in the occupation of Pekin and the Imperial Government suing for peace, restrained him from exacting more stringent conditions than those which were embodied in the Treaty of Tientsin, which under very different circumstances had been conceded by the Chinese Government two years previously. The Chinese Government were quick to recognize on the part of Sir Harry Parkes an entire absence of all thought of self, or desire that retribution should be exacted for the personal sufferings and indignities to which he had been exposed, and instead of his name being associated with the destruction of the Summer Palace, it is more likely to be remembered by the Empress Regent, and certainly by Prince Kung, in connection with his efforts in support of Lord Elgin's well-known desire for the establishment of a cordial and lasting friendship between the two countries, and as one who endeavoured in those days of peril to the imperial dynasty, threatened and convulsed as the empire was by internal rebellions and external wars, both by advice and influence, to restore peace, and thus to save her from her most immediate and pressing danger. If, therefore, the services of Sir Thomas Wade, who by his great experience and ability has contributed more than any man to the consolidation of the friendly relations which now happily exist between the two empires, are required elsewhere, and a successor to represent the interests of this country in China has to be appointed, then I venture to think, notwithstanding the reason assigned by "Sinensis" as likely to render the nomination of Sir Harry Parkes distasteful to the Chinese Government, that they will hail with satisfaction, especially at this period of much public anxiety, the appointment of a Minister who in the hour of China's greatest need, forgetful of all personal wrongs, proved himself to be one of her truest friends.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

HENRY B. LOCH.

May 17th.

Mr. Wing.

Appointment of Jr. Wirtheimber as Assistant Manager Boston Exhibition Aug 14, 1883 Cr. Ltr

No. 1713.

U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 17th 1883.

Mr. Bingham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Appointment [upon Mr. Bigham's recommendation] of Mr. Louis Wirtheimber to be Assistant Manager at the Boston Exhibition.

Omit

No. 1313. U. S. Legation Japan.

Tokei, July 17th 1883

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I beg leave to acquaint you that I am informed by His Excellency, Saigo Judo, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, that [upon my recommendation] Mr. Louis Wirtheimber has been appointed to be assistant Manager for Japan at the Boston Exhibition. Omit

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno A Bingham

Mr Wing

Received Aug 15. 1883. Cipher.

U.S. Legation Japan.
Tokei. July 19th 1883

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 13 1883
RECEIVED

Mr. Howard.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Expense account as Bearer of Despatches.

U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei. July 19th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith my expense account as Bearer of Dispatches.

Therein it will be seen that I have expended $532.53 on which account I was advanced but $450.00 I hope that it will please the Department to allow me the remaining balance in view of the fact that my expenses were in fact much greater than stated and were forced upon me by the necessities of my mission.

Thanking

Thanking the Department for the
confidence reposed in me.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Gustavus Goward,
(Secretary of Legation)
Bearer of Despatches.

Enclosure.

Statement of expense account
as Bearer of Despatches, with 3 vouchers

Mr Wing.

File

U. S. Legation, Japan.
Tokei. July 19th 1883.

Mr. Goward,
To the Secretary of State-

Subject
Receipt of instruction dated July 19th 1883. approving Mr. Goward's course relative to the delivery of the Corean Treaty to Mr. Bingham.

U. S. Legation, Japan.
Tokei, July 19th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of instruction dated June 9th 1883. approving my course in delivering the Corean Treaty to Mr. Bingham.

I have the honor to be, Sir.
Your Obedient Servant.
Gustavus Goward.
Secretary of Legation

#

U. S. Legation. Japan.

Tokei. July 19th 1883.

Mr. Goward.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Duplicate Statement of Salary account in transit and regular for the 2nd Quarter ending June 30th 1883.

#

U. S. Legation in Japan

Tokei, July 19th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward herewith enclosed a duplicate statement of my account sent by the last mail together with duplicate vouchers attached.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Gustavus Goward

Secretary of Legation.

Enclosure. Duplicate statement of account with vouchers for salary in transit, and also for regular salary to June 30th 1883. 2nd Quarter.

No 1714.

U.S. Legation, Japan.
Tokei, July 19th 1883.

Mr. Bingham
To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of instructions numbered respectively 741, 742 with enclosure, and 743.

No. 1714. U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 19th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of instructions numbered respectively, 741, 742 with enclosure, and 743.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno. A. Bingham

Copy to Secy of Boston Exhibition aug 18. 1883. Cridler

Trans accordingly aug 18. 1883 Cridler

In duty

No. 1715

U.S. Legation

Yokei Japan 19 July 1883

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUG 13 1883 RECEIVED

Mr. Pingham

To Hon Frederick T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Subject-

His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Ministers for Foreign Affairs asks for reduction on freights & passage between Yokohama and Boston and exemptions from certain rules of Exhibition Associations, for Japanese Exhibitors

No 1715

U.S. Legation

Tokei Japan July 19 1883

Hon. Frederick T Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State

Washington DC.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to enclose a copy of a note just received from His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Inouye, in which His Excellency on behalf of the Japanese who propose to forward articles to Boston for the approaching Exhibition requests, first, a reduction of freight and passage to San Francisco; second, a reduction of freight and passage by Railway from San Francisco to Boston; and third, that the Boston association having charge of the Exhibition will

will not exact of Japanese Exhibitors
10 per cent of the amount realized
from the sale of their goods.
You will please observe that the Minister
expresses the hope that exceptional favors
may be extended to Japanese Exhibitors
and requests that the matter may be
brought to the favorable consideration
of the proper authorities.

I respectfully submit the
Ministers communication for your
consideration and for such action
thereon as you may deem advisable

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Obedient Servant
Mc A. Bingham

Enclosure Copy of Mr. Inouye's letter to
Mr. Bingham dated 19th of July 1883.

Enclosure to Mr. Binghams No 17/15

Copy of translation.

Foreign Office Tokio
19th of the 7th Month of
the 16th year Meiji (July 19-1883)

His Excellency
Jno A Bingham
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the U.S.A
&c.

Sir:

Referring to my note dated the 6th ultimo on the subject of the forthcoming Exhibition at Boston Mass. Chusetts, in which Japanese subjects will participate for exhibiting their national manufactures and products, I have now the honor to acquaint Your Excellency that the Japanese Exhibitors have forwarded

forwarded their wishes to the Minister of Agricultural and Commercial Department on the following subjects:

1st That certain discount on the freight and passage fare between Yokohama and San Francisco be allowed for these Exhibitors.

2nd That certain discount on the freight and railway fare between San Francisco and Boston be allowed for them.

3rd And that the rule as they are informed, requiring when the articles exhibited are sold, 10 per cent on the amount realized is payable to the association, be not applied to the Japanese Exhibitors.

In transmitting to Your Excellency the above representations of Japanese Exhibitors

Exhibitors as communicated from Mr. Saigo the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, I hope that through your instrumentality the desired end would be effected.

As your Excellency is well aware, the time being so short before the opening of the Exhibition as to oblige these Exhibitors to send their articles to San Francisco thence directly by rail to Boston thus incurring much greater expenses than by sending them through the Suez Canal, I trust that Exceptional favors may be extended to these Japanese Exhibitors by the effort of Foreign Exhibition Association.

Requesting that if it be convenient, Your Excellency will be good enough to bring this matter to the favorable

Consideration

Consideration of the proper authorities.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest Consideration

(Signed) Inouye Kaoru

H. I. J. His Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Irving

PRINTED.
FOREIGN RELATIONS.
1883

Rec'd Sept 8th
Aug. 31st
Cridler

No. 1716.

AUG 23 1883 RECEIVED

U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei. July. 30th 1883.

Mr. Bingham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Iwakura Tomomi. His life death and funeral obsequies.

No. 1716 U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 30th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

It is with deep regret that I acquaint you of the death on the 20th instant of His Excellency Iwakura Tomomi Junior Prime Minister of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan. Mr. Iwakura was one of the ablest of His Majesty's Ministers and was also one of the foremost intellectually and morally of his countrymen. No Minister of the Empire enjoyed more of the Emperor's confidence or exercised a larger influence

in

in shaping the policy of His Majes-
-ty's Government.

On the 19th instant Mr. Iwakura addressed to His Majesty a petition asking to be relieved from the duties of his office, a copy of which petition as published in the Japan Daily Mail of the 24th instant. I have the honor to enclose herewith.

On the same day His Majesty issued his imperial decree as follows:

"Iwakura Tomomi, Udaijen, has in ac-
"-cordance with his request been permitted
"to retire from office.

" He will be officially styled the Ex-
"-Udaijin and will retain his rank as
" heretofore."

On the following morning the Em-
-peror being advised that the end was
near

near called for the second time in person at the house of Mr. Iwakura and took leave of his dying Counsellor.

Directly after the death of Mr. Iwakura, His Majesty conferred upon him the posthumous title of Daijo Daijin (first Minister of State.) and issued the following Rescript:

"The Ex-Third Minister of State [Iwaku-ra Tomomi] aided me [the Emperor] with unflagging fidelity and loyalty in the accomplishment of the great work, — the work which is destined for eternity. He was the pillar of the nation and a model for my subjects. I ascend-ed the throne in my youth. Depend-ent upon the Ministers, I listened to their counsels. The deceased was my teacher. Heaven has deprived me of his aid!

How

" How grieved am I! In honor to his
" memory, I confer on him the post-
" -humous title of First Minister of State.

On the 25th instant the remains of Mr. Iwakura were buried beside the remains of his honored father within the limits of this Capital.

I enclose an account as published in the Japan Daily Mail of the 26th instant, of the funeral cortege and of the vast numbers of the people who quietly came out to attest their high regard for the dead Statesman and patriot.

Encl 2/

I also beg leave to enclose for your information a sketch of the life and public services of Mr. Iwakura published in the Japan Weekly Mail of the 28th instant.

Having

Having been honored during all my service here with the friendship of Mr. Arakura, I repeatedly called and enquired for him in the time of his last illness, and during his obsequies as a mark of respect, I placed our flag at half mast.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

M. A. Bingham

Enclosures.

No. 1. Extract from the Japan Daily Mail, dated July 26th 1883.

No. 2 - Extract from the Japan Weekly Mail, dated July 28th 1883.

Encl

Enclosure No. 1. to Mr. Bingham's No. 1716.

The Japan Daily Mail.

YOKOHAMA, THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1883.

THE Funeral of His Excellency IWAKURA took place yesterday morning. Long before daylight the whole of Tokiyo was astir, and at sunrise thousands of people might have been seen wending their way from all quarters of the city towards the streets along which the procession was to pass. Not only the newspapers, but also official notices exhibited in conspicuous positions at the Government Departments and near the residence of the deceased statesman, had furnished accurate information of the routine to be observed at the ceremony, and every available space from which the procession could be viewed was crowded with eager but orderly spectators. There was, however, one notable exception to this display of curiosity—an exception which, as a revival of now obsolete customs, and as a purely voluntary act on the part of the people, was significant of the respect in which the great Minister was universally held. All along the line of route the upper windows looking on the streets were untenanted, or only used by persons seated so far back as to be nearly invisible to those passing below. In old times these windows would have been closed, and to peep from them at all would have entailed serious consequences; but such restrictions have long ceased to be imposed, and if the citizens of Tokiyo reverted in this instance to their former habits, it was entirely because they felt that the occasion demanded some exceptional mark of reverence. Six o'clock A.M. was the hour fixed for the *cortége* to set out, and despite the extensive nature of the preparations to be made, scarcely fifteen minutes delay took place. The order of the procession was as follows:—

A Company of Pioneers,
50 Men.

The Band of the Imperial Guards.

Two Double Companies of Imperial Guards,
250 Men.

Two Squadrons of Cavalry,
130 Men.

The *Naga-bitsu* (Travelling Valise) of the Deceased, Draped in White and carried by Servitors in White.

A number of Shinto Priests in White robes, carrying long Bamboo Poles with Streamers and large Bouquets of Artificial Flowers.

THE BIER.

The Carriages of the two Chief Mourners; Arima, Duke of Kurume, and Nabeshima, Duke of Hizen.

A number of Shinto Priests, carrying Flowers and a tall Bamboo Pole with White Stays, to which was attached a White Banner with a Verse of Scripture inscribed.

Four Chief Priests on horseback, their horses led by two Grooms each.

Two Carriages, with Ladies of the deceased's household.

Three Hundred and Twenty Carriages and Four Hundred and Seventy Jinrikishas, containing the Imperial Princes, Ministers of State, Officers of the Army and Navy, &c.

Mounted Field Officers—Thirty-five.

Two Battalions of the Tokiyo Garrison,
800 Men.

A Battery of Mountain Artillery,
Six Guns.

Two Batteries of Horse Artillery,
Twelve Guns.

A Company of the Military Train.

The troops were in full dress, and fortunately for them, as well as for the high officials, whose heavily laced tunics are ill fitted for midsummer use, the morning was cloudy and comparatively cool. The bier was made of snow-white pine-wood, of graceful shape and the most skilful workmanship, but entirely without ornamentation, except the mountings which were of silver gilt. The ladies of the deceased's household were dressed in soft white crape, and constituted the most charming, if not the most picturesque, feature of the pageant. Nothing could have been more striking than the stillness of the immense crowds which lined the streets on either side throughout the whole length of the route. Instead of the buzz and clamour generally inseparable from these huge gatherings, even the ordinary sounds of life seemed to be hushed, and beyond the tramp of the soldiers and the roll of the carriages nothing was audible. Only six foreigners, of whom two were missionaries and the rest *employés*, present or past, of the Japanese Government, joined the ranks of the procession. Not that there was any lack of desire to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of the great Minister, but because special provision had been made elsewhere for the attendance of strangers. It was thought, apparently, that the early hour and the slow rate of progress over so long a route might advantageously be dispensed with in their case, and instructions were accordingly issued to the effect that foreigners wishing to take part in the ceremony should proceed at once to the neighbourhood of the temple, where they would find a house prepared for their reception. This course was adopted by the

Corps Diplomatique, the foreign *employés* of the Government, and a few others.

The Temple of Kaianji, where the funeral service was performed, lies at the Southern outskirts of Shinagawa. Like many other notable places in the environs of the metropolis, it owes its fame to the beauty of its scenery, for the people are wont to say that nowhere else does "autumn's fire burn ruddier along the woods," or "the dead leaves fall and melt" more tenderly. It is a quiet spot, with no architectural grandeur to recommend it, nor do the tombstones in its cemetery bear any name more illustrious than that of the man who has just been laid among them. The procession reached the Shrine a little before nine o'clock. With the exception of the carriages containing the lady mourners, all the vehicles were stopped at a considerable distance from the entrance, and their inmates dismounting, followed the bier on foot. On either side of the temple avenue there were erected large stalls draped with white, and in these the principal officials ranged themselves, the artillery meanwhile firing a salute. For the foreign visitors the neighbouring Temple of Kaiunji had been set apart, and in an inn at the opposite side of the street similar preparations had been made for the accommodation of the *Kwazoku* (nobles). The Temple of Kaianji itself is small, and could never have been destined by its builders for such a ceremony as that of yesterday. Some confusion was caused by the difficulty of carrying the bier, with its lofty roof, through the door of the fane, nor was the latter by any means large enough to accommodate the numerous assemblage of Princes, Ministers, and Officials seeking admittance. The burial service was exceedingly simple. The officiating prelate, a member of the Imperial family, standing before the bier, read two funeral orations, the first written by the EMPEROR himself, and the second composed by the priests. Each person present, one by one in due order, then approached the bier, and making a last obeisance to the dead, deposited before it a branch of *shikimi*. It was pleasant to see that even the Foreign Representatives took part in this performance, though at Mr. OKUBO'S obsequies they were prevented from doing so by some scruple with which not many will sympathise. This brought the service to a conclusion at a few minutes before eleven, and the body was afterwards lowered into the grave in the presence of a select few. The sun, meanwhile, having dispelled the mists, shone brightly out over the woods and waters on which the grave of the dead patriot looks down.

Enclosure No. 2, to Mr. Bingham's No 1716.
Extract from Japan Weekly Mail, dated July 28th 1883

A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE IWAKURA TOMOMI.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

His Excellency, the deceased Iwakura, was a son of Iwakura Tomoyoshi, Privy Councillor and Ukonye-no-Chiuzo of the senior third rank, and was born in Kiyoto on the 15th September, in the 8th year of the epoch Bunsei (1825). In his fourteenth year—on the 28th October in the 9th year of Tempo (1838)—he was raised to second junior fifth rank; and was subsequently allowed to attend at the Imperial Palace, after having performed the ceremony of *Gembuku* or shaving the forelock, on the 11th December of the same year. On the 14th of June of the 12th year of Tempo (1841), he was promoted to the first junior fifth rank, and on the 18th of February of the 2nd year of Kokwa (1845), to the second senior fifth rank. On the 20th of March in the 7th year of Kayei (1854), he was appointed Imperial Chamberlain, and was promoted to the 2nd junior fourth rank. On the 2nd of September of the 2nd year of Ansei (1856), he was admitted a member of the *Waka* club (a club for the composition of Japanese poems), and on the 25th January of the ensuing year, was elected Chairman, a position which was held in the highest honour by the Court nobles, as it could only to be occupied by one well versed in poetic composition. Iwakura possessed this talent; and it was generally believed that his nomination was also in great measure due to his natural ability and personal qualifications in other respects. On the 25th of January of the 4th year of Ansei (1851), he was elevated to the first junior fourth rank and appointed Imperial Chamberlain. He was then thirty-two years old. On the 29th of December of the 1st year of Manyen (1860), he was appointed Ukonye-no-Gonshôsho, and promoted to the 2nd senior fourth rank on the 5th of January of the 1st year of Bunkiu (1861). On the 16th of the same month, he proceeded to the Palace to express his gratitude for his promotion, and on the 15th May of the 2nd year (1862) of the same epoch he was nominated Ukonye-no-Gonchiujo. Honour upon honour was heaped upon him by these annual promotions. On the 28th of July of the same year, he was ordered, nominally on account of temporary illness, to discharge his duties in the Special Department with officers of similar rank. The real cause may be found in the following. In the 5th years of Ansei (1858), Horita Bitchiu-no-Kami, Councillor of the Bakufu Government, arrived in Kiyoto and petitioned the Emperor to decree the opening of the ports to foreign commerce. Nakayama Dainagon and other Court nobles, numbering more than eighty, who had achieved some notoriety by the expression of their opinions in favour of the expulsion of foreigners, forwarded a memorial to the Mikado, bearing all their signatures, beseeching him to decline the petition of the Dainagon. This was the origin of the discord between the Imperial, and the Bakufu officials. The management of political affairs was grievously impeded, to the danger of any national tranquillity. A suggestion that a conciliatory course should be adopted was mooted in the Imperial Cabinet.

When the clamour for the expulsion of foreigners ceased, and question was raised as to the advisability of reconciling the Imperial and Bakufu Governments, Mr. Iwakura, having carefully observed the general condition of the Empire, changed his views and determined not to advocate the cause of the *Jôi* faction. He then devoted his energy to persuading the Emperor to send Kadsu no Miya to Tokiyô or marriage with the Shogun, but this unprcedented measure having failed to induce the Shogun to enforce the policy of seclusion, some of the powerful clans which were fanatic advocates of the cause of the *Jôi*, began to complain of the results as contrary to what was originally desired. Some of the Court nobles also made a similar complaint, which grew louder day by day. The Mikado became anxious about the final issue, and this eventually led to a serious disagreement between himself and the nobles who recommended a reconciliation with the Shogun. On the 20th August in the ensuing year Mr. Iwakura resigned the office of *Chiunagon*, and received a decree from the Mikado ordering him to confine himself to his house. This induced him to retire from the political arena and enter the priesthood. His Buddhist name was Yuzen—"friendly mountain." Yet the anger of the Emperor was not appeased, and he issued another decree on the 25th September prohibiting him from dwelling in Kiyoto. Mr. Iwakura, therefore, removed to a rustic villa in the hamlet named Iwakura-mura, in the Rural Division of Atago, in the province of Yamashiro, and passed his days in strict seclusion. On the 13th of January in the 3rd year of Bunkiu (1863), he received an Imperial order desiring him to keep a strict watch over himself, so as not to offend the Mikado. Whilst he was thus confined to his house, Messrs. Kagawa, now Assistant Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household Department, and Ohashi, formerly a sixth-class officer in the Finance Department, secretly met in his house for the purpose of discussing national affairs, and, subsequently, Okubo, Kido, Saigo, Sakamoto, and Ishikawa went to visit him for similar purposes. It was afterwatds known that the scheme of the Restoration was decided on at this time. On the 29th of March of the 3rd year of Keiwo (1867), he was permitted to visit Kiyoto, with the condition that he might only remain there for one night on each occasion. On the 8th of November of the same year, an order was issued to the effect that he might return to Kiyoto at his pleasure. It was then that the national trouble was at its height. Finally Iwakura was released from all confinment and restored to his position on the 9th of December. He was subsequently appointed Councillor, and ordered to participate in the debates on the method of effecting the scheme of the Restoration. In February of the 1st year of Meiji (1867), he was appointed Vice-Minister of State, and, on the 17th of the same month, was nominated a Chief Commissioner of Naval and Military accounts. On the 22nd he was promoted to the post of Ukonye-no-suke and to the third junior rank. On the 21st April, he was released from his office, transferred to the position of Councillor, and ordered to act as Minister of State.

On the 20th of April he was released from these duties and ordered by special favour of the Mikado to wait upon him every day. On the 25th he was again ordered to act as Councillor and Minister of State on the ground that there was considerable pressure of business owing to the introduction of reforms. But as he had fallen sick through overexertion and consequent irregularity of living, both of which the result of his enthusiastic participation in the management of politica. affairs, he declined to accept this appointmentl The authorities, having approved his refusal, released him from the office of Minister, but requested him in urgent terms to discharge the functions of Councillor; and he was allowed to occupy the first seat in the Council, notice to this

effect having been issued on the 17th of January in the 2nd year of Meiji (1868). On the 25th he was nominated *Gon Dainagon* and promoted to the second senior rank. He was frequently urged to accept the appointment of Commander-in-Chief, but he declined; and subsequently he was invested with the rank of *Dainagon*. On the 11th, February of the same year he obtained leave of absence for the benefit of his health, and proceeded to Osaka, but on the 14th he was unexpectedly ordered to return to the capital on special official business. On the 13th of April, he received an Imperial order to discharge the most important portion of the functions of the Executive. On the 26th of September he was honoured with the following Imperial address:—

"You, Tomomi, lamenting the decline of the Imperial Administration, have imbued yourself with the spirit of remedying evil, and at last succeeded in bringing about the Restoration by devoting your energies to the adoption of many necessary plans and measures which you have worked out with remarkable assiduity. I regard you as the foundation of my Empire, and as the most useful member of my Ministry. I acknowledge your merit, and hereby commend your services. I look for further faithful and diligent assistance from you."

A pension of five thousand *Koku* was granted Iwakura for life in recognition of his services. On the 23rd of November he was ordered to participate in the management of naval and military affairs, but was released from this duty in April of the 3rd year of Meiji. On the 16th of July he was appointed to the *Mimbusho* (Home Department), released on the 5th of October, and despatched as an Imperial messenger to the clans of Kagoshima and Yamaguchi. At this time he received another special address from the Emperor, which ran as follows:—"So far as the present state of affairs is concerned, the task we have to complete in future will involve us in great difficulty. We order you to persuade Môri, of the second junior rank, and Shimadzu, of the third, to come to the capital to assist us in the adjustment of political affairs, so that these two lords working in unison may show what course ought to be pursued by others as a rule of conduct, and adopt measures for the consolidation of the Imperial foundations. We entrust you to convey our sincere sentiments to them." On the 6th February of the 4th year he returned to the capital from his mission; on the 14th July he was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs in his forty-seventh year. On the 11th August he was honoured with a personal visit from the Mikado and presented with the following address:—

"Since the commencement of the Restoration, you have performed your duties most assiduously, and it cannot be doubted that our present prosperity is in great measure due to the carrying out of your judicious resolutions. We have therefore come to visit you in person and to acknowledge your merits."

On the 8th October of the same year, the Mr. Iwakura was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to European States. He left Japan on the 12th of November. His mission greatly contributed towards introducing Occidental civilization into this country and promoting friendship between this and foreign countries. Our present civilization is a gift from him. In the 6th year of the same era, his father Tomofusa died. On the 20th of the same month, at the age of forty-nine, he succeeded his father. On the 13th of the same year, he returned from Europe.

On the 20th of October, His Majesty the Mikado visited him in person and expressed himself as follows:—"The illness of the Prime Minister at this juncture, when the nation is involved in many difficulties, causes us great anxiety. We earnestly desire you, Tomomi, to assume all duties on his behalf and apply yourself with all your energy to the work in order to secure ease for the people."

On the 14th of January of the 7th year of Meiji, Iwakura was assaulted by would-be assassins, but escaped. He recovered from his wound and resumed duty on the 23d of February. In May of the 9th year of Meiji, he accompanied the Emperor on his tour to the Oshiu districts. On the 18th of the same month, he was promoted to the junior first class and granted the 1st class of the Order of Merit and the insignia of the Rising Sun. On the 24th January of the 10th year of Meiji (1876), the Emperor left Tokiyo for Kiyoto. On the eve of his departure, His Majesty honored Iwakura with the following Imperial Rescript:—"During our absence, we cannot superintend the administration. We therefore entrust it to your care. We bid you to conduct it to our satisfaction; and if any important affairs take place, let us know, asking for instruction. However, if things demand immediate action, you must decide according to your own discretion." At this time, the South-western rebellion broke out. In August he accompanied the Emperor on his journey to the Hokurokudo and Tokaido. In May of the 16th year of Meiji, he went to Kiyoto to superintend the work commenced there to preserve the Palace. In that city he was attacked by enduring illness. He returned to the capital in June, in a precarious condition. On the 5th of July, the Emperor visited him in person, while Her Imperial Majesty the Empress paid him a visit on the 12th of the same month. On the 19th, his resignation was accepted by the Government. On the same day the Sovereign visited him. On the 20th Iwakura breathed his last.

recd. aug. 30, 88
Letter to Dept. aug 30, 1888
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No. 17

U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 30th 1888.

Mr. Bingham

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

The Corean Embassy en route to the United States.

No. 1717. U.S. Legation Japan.

Tokei, July 30th 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State,

Washington. D.C.

Sir.

I am to-day in receipt of a communication from our Minister Mr. Foote, a copy of which is herewith, wherein he informs me of the coming hither per the U.S.S. Monocacy of two persons of high rank en route to the United States in the quality of Ambassadors from the King of Corea to our government. You will please observe that Mr. Foote suggests that upon the arrival of these gentlemen in San Francisco there should be a government messenger sent out

out to meet them & to accompany them
to Washington, and to that end Mr.
Foote expresses the hope that I "will
" telegraph the fact of their coming
"to the Secretary of State"

As this is the first Korean Embassy
sent to the Western World, and inas-
-much as the King of Korea has signi-
-fied his preference for our govern-
-ment by sending his first Embassy to
the United States I concur with Mr.
Foote in the opinion that it may be pro-
-ductive of good results and promotive
of our interests in Korea if their
Ambassadors should be received
with special attention and if they
be as far as possible informed of our
military and school systems and al-
-so of our methods of coinage -

Acting

Acting upon Mr. Foote's suggestion, I will send to you a telegram as soon as the day of their departure for San Francisco shall have been ascertained.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure.

Copy of Mr. Foote' letter to Mr. Bingham, dated Seoul, Corea July.

Enclosure to Mr. Bingham's No. 1717.

Copy.

Legation of the United States

Séoul Corea July

My dear Colleague

By the "Monocacy" two envoys go from the Government of Corea to Washington.

I am very anxious that marked attention should be shown to these people, because our influence in this country will depend very much upon the impressions which they receive.

They are men of the highest rank, and their designation for this purpose is intended as a compliment to the United States

Mr. Min Yong Ik is the nephew of the King, and the brother-in-law of the Heir

Heir Apparent.

Mr. Hong Yeng Shek is the son of the Prime Minister, one of the ablest men in the Kingdom

Although young men they have each been Embassador, the one first to China then to Japan, the other to Japan. They are intelligent and well versed in foreign ways and customs. This Embassy has been determined upon at my suggestion

In an interview with the King I took occassion to say, that my government would be gratified to receive the first Envoy sent by His Majesty the King to the Western Powers, and this has seemingly determined the matter.

They go by the "Monocacy" to Nagasaki and I hope to Yokohama, thence to San Francisco

Francisco, where there should be a Government Messenger to receive and go East with them.

I shall do all that I can by private letter, to make their reception in San Francisco creditable. I hope that you will telegraph the fact of their coming to the Secretary of State, and make any suggestions which may seem to you proper. Also do all that you can by Official and private Correspondence to ensure proper attentions. They ought particularly to be shown the Fortifications, the Arsenals, the Mints, the Custom Houses, the Post-Offices, the Public Schools, from San Francisco Eastward.

They desire particularly to examine our Military and School Systems, and

and our Methods of Coining Money, the sequence would be that our Govern: ment would be asked to designate persons to organize and manage these departments for them.

I have said to them that you would meet them in Yokohama and give them all proper aid and advice

Very Sincerely Yours
Signed Luther H. Foote

Hon Jno A. Bingham
E. E. & M. P. of the U.S
Yokohama Japan

Sent to Nav. Office for signal Office Aug 30 1883 Cridler

Mr. Wing

No. 1718

U.S. Legation, Japan

Tokei, July 31st 1883

Mr. Bingham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject-

Transmission of Meteorological Reports for use of the Signal Service-

No. 1718 U. S. Legation. Japan.

Tokei, July 31st 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Herewith I beg leave to transmit for the use of our signal service the reports for the current month of the Imperial Meteorological Observatory of Tokio.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Jno. A. Bingham

Enclosure,

Above mentioned Meteorological reports.

No. 1719.

U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 31st 1883.

Mr. Bingham.

To the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of instructions with enclosures.

No. 1719.

U. S. Legation, Japan.

Tokei, July 31st 1883.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of instructions numbered respectively 744 with enclosure, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749 with enclosure, 750 and 751.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno. A. Bingham